**Instructions:** The examination will consist of five (5) sections as follows:

A) General Political Science  
B) American Government (National, State and Local)  
C) Political Philosophy & Theory  
D) International Relations, and  
E) Comparative Politics

Students must answer one question from each of the five sections for a total of 5 questions.

1. **GENERAL POLITICAL SCIENCE**

   a) A perennial theme in the study of political science is the understanding of the struggle between despotism and democracy in the management of the human polity. From a review of, at least, three sub-disciplines of political science, fully examine this proposition has been developed and/or argued. In your response, please refer to key scholar, their arguments and texts.

   b) Richard Dye argued that political scientists from Aristotle to the present day have been concerned with the dangers of unlimited and unchecked governmental power. From your study of political science, fully respond to this argument. In your response, please make use of key propositions from the different sub-disciplines and also refer to the key scholars and their texts where possible.

2. **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (National, State and Local)**

   a) How did colonial and post-colonial experiences shape the policy agenda at the Constitutional Convention? What issues comprised the agenda and how were they resolved?

   b) Imagine that you are a leader of your party in the United States House of Representatives. A bill is coming up for a vote, and you expect close voting. Explain how you would put pressure on your party’s members to vote with the party, and what kinds of resistance you might encounter from your own party?
3. POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY & THEORY

a) Explain and discuss why Socrates, based on your reading of Plato’s *Republic* (books 1-5) and with respect to the Socratic/Platonic justice, would recommend that “philosophers rule as kings or those who are now kings genuinely and adequately philosophize” (as a panacea to the ills plaguing humanity?)

b) What are the four main characteristics of political theory/philosophy (as a sub-discipline with the discipline of political science)? In your answer, endeavor to articulate the essential values and/or uses of this academic discipline as enunciated by George Kateb in his *Political Theory*.

4. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

a) International relations is characterized as the study of the struggle for war and peace in international society. Explain the source of this apparent paradox. Identify and discuss some of the major causes of war as well as the different ways by which State actors seek to achieve peace in the international system. How would you account for the cause of the Iraqi war (2003). Please provide concrete examples in your response.

b) Realists state that international relations is the struggle for power and influence between actors in an international system. Fully explain this argument. In light of this proposition, also examine the factors that define the current relationship between the United States and Iran. Finally, identify and discuss the other major issues that characterize the relations between the United States and the Middle East in general.

5. COMPARATIVE POLITICS

a) Discuss the differences between liberalism, communism, social democracy, and mercantilist political economic systems. In the essay, you must provide examples from two of the following countries: United States, South Korea, China, or France.

b) Compare and contrast the key components (theoretical and practical) of two forms of government (democracy, communism, or authoritarianism including their sub-types). In your essay, there is the need to provide examples from two of the following countries: the United Kingdom, China, Russia, Japan, or Nigeria. And your answer must reflect detailed analysis of a country’s socio-economic status in terms of the GDP per capita, HDI, GINI index, and whether the economy is primarily agricultural, industrial, or service-based.