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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

279 0057 ZA

BSc degrees and Diplomas for Graduates in Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences, the Diploma in Economics and Access Route for Students in the External Programme

Social Policy

Tuesday, 16 May 2006 : 2.30pm to 5.30pm

Candidates should answer **FOUR** of the following **THIRTEEN** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

PLEASE TURN OVER

1. How valid is it to argue that Social Policy is less of a discipline than a 'subject area'?
2. What advantages do you see in employing an 'absolute' measure of poverty to estimate poverty rates? In what ways might theories of 'relative' poverty improve on the 'absolute' model?
3. In what ways, if any, have contemporary theories of social citizenship improved on T. H. Marshall's original model?
4. 'If there is a common human need for "autonomy" as Doyal and Gough (1992) claim, it is all the more important to pay attention to the demands of difference'. Discuss.
5. How relevant are Marxist ideologies of welfare to the challenges currently facing contemporary liberal democracies?
6. To what extent have New Right ideas succeeded in dominating social policy agendas in contemporary welfare states?
7. Feminist thinking about welfare was extremely successful in embedding the feminist perspective on social policy in the 1970s and 1980s – but do feminist thinkers have anything new to tell us about the place of gender in contemporary welfare states?
8. 'Although anti-racist perspectives on welfare remain rather underdeveloped, they are nevertheless crucial to our understanding of welfare states in contemporary society'. Discuss.
9. 'The term "postmodern", when applied to welfare states, essentially means the fragmentation of state welfare structures into a "mixed economy of welfare"'. Discuss.
10. What are the main strengths and weaknesses of Liberal Residual welfare regimes such as the USA?
11. 'Social democratic welfare regimes are thought to be more egalitarian than Conservative Corporatist regime types.' Discuss.
12. How accurate is it to suggest that the family continues to be the main source of welfare in East and South East Asian countries?
13. Why are the welfare systems developed in the 'advanced' liberal democracies likely to be inappropriate for countries in the developing world?

END OF PAPER