

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh
National University of Ireland, Galway
Semester II Examinations 2004 / 2005

GX ^{a32}

Exam Code(s) IEE1, IEP1
Exam(s) M.A. (Economic Policy Evaluation & Planning)
M.Econ.Sc. (Economic Policy Evaluation & Planning)

Module Code(s) EC516
Module(s) Policy and Planning Analysis

Paper No. 1
Repeat Paper

External Examiner(s) Professor Vincent Munley
Internal Examiner(s) Mr. Brendan Kennelly
Professor Michael P. Cuddy
Ms. Sarah Callanan
Professor Michael J. Keane

Instructions:

**Please attempt two questions from Section A and one question
from Section B and one question from Section C**

Duration 2.5 hours
No. of Pages 2 (including cover page)
Department(s) ECONOMICS
Course Co-ordinator(s) M. Cuddy, S. Callanan, M. Keane

Requirements:

MCQ
Handout
Statistical Tables
Graph Paper
Log Graph Paper
Other Material

EC516 Policy and Planning Analysis

Please attempt two questions from Section A and one question from Section B and one question from Section C

Section A

Please answer ONE questions

1. The “institutionalist” approach to economics, although incomplete, offers some rich insights into our understanding of economic behaviour. Discuss and elaborate.
2. What do you understand by “market failure” in the context of neo-classical economics? Outline some of the instances of market failure encountered in less developed regions and the policy measures implemented to address these problems.
3. Describe the principal steps in preparing a Regional Development Plan. Include, in particular, the SWOT analysis approach to understanding the current socioeconomic situation in the region, using a particular sector for illustration purposes.
4. Outline the systematic process, which must be engaged in devising policy measures for, say, industrial development. Pay particular attention to the objectives set out and how you move from these objectives to defining measures to be implemented.

Section B

Please answer ONE question

5. “Policy evaluation in practice is much more of a challenge than evaluation theory may indicate”. Discuss (with reference to course work if desired).
6. Quantitative evaluative methods provide answers to the evaluative questions, but qualitative methods provide the explanation for what has occurred. Outline the factors that determine the choice of methods employed in a policy evaluation, highlighting the advantages and disadvantages of both.

Section C

Please answer ONE question.

7. What kinds of market failure arguments are particularly relevant to the design of local economic development policies?
8. ‘...the problem-solving ability of complex system depends not on hierarchical control but on maximizing discretion at the point where the problem is most immediate’ [Elmore 1979, Backward Mapping]. Can you identify some design and implementation tools that can help maximize discretion and improve policy effectiveness at the local level?