THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
MONA

EXAMINATION OF APRIL 2005

Code and Name of Course GT11A Introduction to Political Institutions

Date and Time: Tuesday May 10, 2005 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: This paper has 2 page(s) and 8 questions.

Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE from Section B

Candidates are reminded that the examiners shall take into account the proper use of the English Language in determining the mark for each response.

SECTION A

1. “St. Lucia last week celebrated its 26th Independence anniversary against the backdrop of a dramatic development in its party politics...former Prime Minister John Compton’s decision to emerge from retirement with hopes of leading the United Workers Party back into government. He will be 81 years of age in December 2006, the expected time of the next general elections” (Sunday Observer, Feb. 27, 2005). Against this background, can any legitimate claims be made concerning change in Caribbean political culture?

2. There are many indicators and arguments used to determine democracy in the world today. Which of these determinants would you use in constructing your ideal type democracy?

3. Critically discuss whether or not the increased powers and equipment given to the Jamaican Police along with the inclusion of Scotland Yard Police Officers in the Force, will be adequate measures to effectively reduce crime in the country.

4. “Democracy for the Few”. Is this an accurate depiction of the American system of government or not?
SECTION B

5. Tony Blair has said that his political reforms were the most important event in the Labour Party's history of the past century. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

6. Where is post-communist Russia today between the two extremes of "dictatorship and democracy"?

7. Caribbean states have been discussing constitutional reform for a long period of time without any effective resolution to these discussions. How, and in what ways, would you resolve this debate in any Caribbean state in favour of the people?

8. What are the imperatives for Caribbean governments and people if they wish to maximize the opportunities of globalization today? Illustrate your answer with examples from any number of Caribbean states.

END OF QUESTION PAPER