MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

COURSE CODE: PSA 1210
COURSE TITLE: POLITICAL PARTIES AND INTEREST GROUPS

DATE: 16TH APRIL, 2019   TIME: 0830 - 1030 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Questions **ONE** and any other **TWO**.

1. a) Define the following concepts:
   i. Civil Society
   ii. Political Party
   iii. Interest Group   **(6 marks)**
   b) Discuss the defining features of a Political Party   **(10 marks)**
   c) Distinguish a political party from an interest group **(4 marks)**
   d) Discuss the functions of Political Parties in a Political System
                                                           (10 marks)

2. Assess the extent to which an interest group of your choice has impacted on the political system of any African state of your choice since the re-introduction of pluralism.   **(20 marks)**

3. Discuss the merits of proportional system of representation

                                                           (20 marks)

4. Explain the applicability of Robert Michels' Iron Law of Oligarchy to political parties in Africa. Use examples to illustrate.   **(20 marks)**

5. Examine the contribution made by political parties toward democratic consolidation in a political system.   **(20 marks)**

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