The exam consists of four (4) questions. Each answer can give a maximum of (10) points. The total number of points is 40. Pass requires 15 points. The grade C requires 25 points. The grade B requires 30 points, and grade A requires 35 points or more.

The answers can be written in this compendium and/or on separate sheets where you clearly mark which question you address.

Bear in mind:

- Reflect on your answer before you start writing.
- The course contents should be reflected in your answers.
- Define key concepts.
- It is generally helpful to provide real world examples to illustrate your lines of thought.
- *Write clearly. If the answers cannot be read, they cannot be graded either.*

Good luck!

Olle

1 Essay question: Explore how a complexity approach can help us analyze different local and national contexts with different institutions with distinct identities and social networks (and related individual social capital). More specifically, you need to relate at least one concept discussed in the course (institutions, social capital, class, or identity) to one or several aspects of complexity theory (such as feedback effects, externalities, emergence, tipping points etc). In so doing you can draw on cases from our seminars, such as real-world policy- and/or development interventions. You can also give concrete examples of how formal and informal institutions, class and social capital interact and how this influences the preconditions of governance in different contexts. You may refer to your discussions in your answers to exam questions 1-3

Write your answer here.

Teckenf…

Ord: 0

Totalpoäng: 10

2 Describe the concept of *complexity*. What are the main characteristics of complex problems, and how do they differ from complicated ones? How does *linear thinking* about society contrast with *complexity thinking*? Discuss the implications of complexity for policymaking—particularly how it affects our ability to use existing knowledge and to understand institutional landscapes before implementing policies (exploitation vs exploration). Critically examine Ramalingam's argument that the global aid community has often addressed complex challenges using approaches suited to simpler, more complicated problems. From a complexity perspective, why does a "one-size-fits-all" approach fail to work?

Write your answer here.

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3

Describe the meaning of the concept ‘institution’ (from this course) and discuss how it has been used in development studies. For instance, consider the idea that states and markets rely on institutions. What does it mean that institutions spread across the world while at the same time, there may be considerable gaps between institutions and actual practices? Explain the specific social ontology of institutions. In so doing you may relate to Portes understanding of institutions as blueprints. Give example of how individuals’ personal/social identities may be linked to institutions (that can be both formal and informal). Consider for example the notion that formal institutions may be compromised by certain identities and related actions. Describe the notion of institutional path dependency and provide an example of how it may shape the development of societies (10 points).

Write your answer here.

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Totalpoäng: 10

4 Explain the concept of *social capital* and discuss its potential benefits for individuals as well as its possible downsides for both individuals and communities. Consider how the absence of formal institutions—such as welfare entitlements—might increase individuals' reliance on social capital, and conversely, how well-developed welfare systems can reduce this dependence. Provide examples illustrating how social capital relates to individuals' identities and class positions, and discuss some possible consequences of these connections. Consider also how social capital may relate to, and sometimes compromise, formal institutions

Write your answer here.

Teckenf...

Ord: 0

Totalpoäng: 10