

# **CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES**

## **SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **MA OPTIONAL COURSE**

#### **PO 524: IDEAS AND ISSUES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

##### **Introduction**

Public Administration as a discipline in the twenty first century is confronted with the issue of identity amidst rapid socio-economic and technological changes. Its evolution can be traced from the traditional public administration, New Public Administration to current New Public Service. Subsequently, several issues and concepts have been added to the traditional theories with inputs from theories of management. The neoliberal policies have had significant impacts on the study and practice of Public Administration. In addition to the 'political' dimension, new dimensions such as leadership qualities and financial sustainability have been added to the understanding of administration. This course attempts to provide a framework for understanding the major developments in the discipline of public administration.

##### **Learning Objectives**

After the completion of the course, the students should be able to trace the origin and evolution of public administration, be familiarized with major ideas and issues in the discipline; and discuss major theories of public administration and management.

##### **Contents**

###### **Unit 1: Origin and Development of Public Administration**

Meaning, Nature and Scope of Public Administration

Evolution of Public Administration as an academic discipline

Public Administration and Private Administration

New Public Administration

###### **Unit 2: Basic Concepts and Principles**

Hierarchy, Unity of Command

Span of Control, Authority and Responsibility

Centralization and Decentralization

Line and Staff Agencies

Ethics, Public Accountability

**Unit 3: Theories of Administration**

Classical Theory, Scientific Management Theory

Bureaucratic Theory, Human Relations Theory

Ecological Approach, Decision Making Theory

**Unit 4: Contemporary Issues & Challenges**

Development Administration to New Public Management, Public Private Partnership

Paradigm Shift from Government to Governance, New Public Management to New Public Service

ICT & Governance.