



ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF HERITAGE AND SOCIETAL ADVANCEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT, PROGRAMMING AND MANAGEMENT

EXAMINATION PAPER

Master of Science (Hons) in Development Studies: Part 1 Semester 2

COURSE CODE : MSDS124
COURSE TITLE : Ethical Issues in Development Practice
DURATION : 3 Hours JUL 2025
DATE : 28 JUL 2025

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. Answer any three questions.
2. Each question carries 25 Marks.
3. Start each question on a new page of your answer sheet.
4. Use relevant examples or case studies in answering your questions

1. In development projects, conflicts often arise between respecting cultural traditions and promoting universal human rights. Discuss the ethical implications of prioritizing cultural sensitivity over universal human rights, using examples from gender, health, or education interventions.
2. The government of Zimbabwe is considering expanding mining operations to boost economic growth, but this will displace local communities and harm biodiversity. Evaluate the ethical considerations of this decision and suggest an approach that balances economic growth with environmental and social justice.
3. A development agency wants to introduce a new agricultural program in an indigenous community, but the community prefers traditional farming methods. Assess the ethical concerns in introducing external development programs and recommend a strategy for ensuring community-led and culturally sensitive development.
4. A global NGO receives millions in donor funding for climate change adaptation projects, yet local communities complain about a lack of visible impact. Analyse the ethical responsibilities of NGOs in ensuring transparency and suggest practical ways they can improve accountability to both donors and local communities.
5. Government officials are drafting a new development policy to enhance social protection for vulnerable populations. Examine the key ethical principles that should guide policy formulation and discuss how policymakers can ensure fairness, inclusivity, and sustainability in social protection programs.

End of Paper

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