



# NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMERCE, HUMAN SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGES

<b>QUALIFICATION:</b> BACHELOR OF COMMUNICATION	
<b>QUALIFICATION CODE:</b> 07BCMM	<b>LEVEL:</b> 6
<b>COURSE CODE:</b> GCO621S	<b>COURSE NAME:</b> GENDER COMMUNICATION
<b>SESSION:</b> NOVEMBER 2025	<b>PAPER:</b> THEORY
<b>DURATION:</b> 3 HOURS	<b>MARKS:</b> 100
<b>FIRST OPPORTUNITY EXAM PAPER</b>	
<b>EXAMINER:</b>	DR. W. NJUGUNA
<b>MODERATOR:</b>	PROF M. MHENE

## INSTRUCTIONS

ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS IN TOTAL. QUESTION ONE (1) IS COMPULSORY

1. Write clearly and neatly
2. Read all questions carefully
3. Number the answers clearly

## PERMISSIBLE MATERIALS

1. Examination paper
2. Examination script

**THIS ASSIGNMENT CONSISTS OF 4 PAGES**

(Including this cover page)

## **SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

### **QUESTION 1**

### **Story - Opinion on Gender Equality**

**[40 marks]**

Read the story below entitled, *Men Must Be Allies, Not Obstacles in Gender Equality - Witbooi*. In view of your understanding of the world where primarily it has been from a male perspective and women's voices are not heard, do the following:

- a) Write at least a 150-word summary of the story as you understand it. **[10 marks]**
- b) In the new National Gender Equality and Equity Policy (2025-2035): 2.13 *Gender Equality in the Family*, emphasis on strengthening creation of strategies that empower women in decision-making at the family level is made. With your ethnic culture in mind, discuss three ways that traditional barriers hindering women/men's inheritance of property after a spouse dies can be improved to ensure equality is sustained. **[12 marks]**
- c) In consideration of varied discussions in class, what you learnt in the *National Gender Policy/Plan 2010-2020*, explain your views on how the boy child has benefitted or not in the past five (5) years since the 2010-2020 policy lapsed. Whatever answers you provide, support them with examples, providing solutions or why status quo should be maintained. **[10 marks]**
- d) Highlight and extensively explain four (4) take-aways from the Gender Communication Course and how you will use them going forward. **[8 marks]**

### **Men Must Be Allies, Not Obstacles in Gender Equality – Witbooi**

#### **Sakeus likela**

Vice President Lucia Witbooi has urged Namibians to view men as allies rather than obstacles to gender equality, saying that true progress depends on partnership between women and men. "The journey of empowerment is not one of exclusion but of partnership. Men must not be seen as obstacles to gender equality, but as allies and advocates who share responsibility in building stronger families and societies," Witbooi said.

She made these remarks during the official opening of the 8th Rural Women Parliament with Men as Partners (RWP) in Windhoek on Monday. She described the forum as "not merely a platform of dialogue but also a beacon of hope and empowerment for our rural communities, especially women," and said it underscores "Namibia's enduring commitment to inclusivity, gender equality, and social justice in the pursuit of sustainable development."

RWP is a shadow parliament of the National Council of the Republic of Namibia. It provides a platform to empower rural women by enabling them and their male partners to debate and discuss matters of national interest that affect their livelihoods.

This week's session – held under the theme: Breaking Barriers: Advancing Sustainable Support and Services for Rural Women and Men – brings together 42 participants from all 14 regions. Of these, 14 are men, participating alongside their female counterparts to promote consensus-building and joint solutions.

Reflecting on the session's theme, Witbooi praised the contribution of rural women, calling them "the backbone of our agricultural economy, food systems, and family livelihoods." She added,

“Equally, rural men stand as partners in development – working alongside women to provide for their families and to uphold the values of dignity, responsibility, and progress.”

Witbooi commended the National Council for sustaining the Rural Women Parliament, calling it “this brilliant platform” which offers “opportunities for grassroots women and men to access information on socio-economic and political developments within the country; and to exchange experiences on how to deal with the challenges in their communities and at personal level.”

She said the Government remains “steadfast in advancing the rights and well-being of rural communities” through policies such as Vision 2030, NDP 6, the SWAPO Party Implementation Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals. But she cautioned that “despite these achievements, we also acknowledge that more still needs to be done especially in rural communities,” pointing to “poverty, limited access to health services, inadequate infrastructure, gender-based inequalities, and the harsh realities of climate change.”

Witbooi raised concern about “the scourge of gender-based violence and rising suicidal cases in our country” and urged participants to act as “positive role models” in their communities. “Together, as men and women, let us analyse, challenge and refrain from harmful cultural norms which advocate for dominance and violence,” she said. “By modelling positive behaviours and healthy relationships, women and men can teach the next generation about respect, equality, and non-violence.”

She concluded by appealing to all stakeholders “to work together with renewed resolve” to ensure that the Rural Women Parliament becomes “not only a platform of dialogue but a catalyst for action. Together, let us serve Namibians with dignity, and determination.”

<https://www.parliament.na/men-must-be-allies-not-obstacles-in-gender-equality-witbooi/>

## SECTION B

### CHOOSE ONLY TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

#### QUESTION 2

#### Three Feminism Waves

[30 marks]

With current local examples to showcase your understanding of the three waves of feminism, discuss them, highlighting when they were created and provide a minimum of three (3) major injustices that each wave sought to address.

#### QUESTION 3

#### Gender Mainstreaming

[30 marks]

Gender mainstreaming was established as a major global strategy for the promotion of gender equality in the *Beijing Platform for Action* from the Fourth United Nations World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. Furthermore, gender equality is guaranteed under *Constitution of Namibia, Article 10 (Equality and Freedom from Discrimination)*: “1. All persons shall be equal before the law and 2. No persons may be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic origin, religion, creed or social or economic status. Gender mainstreaming should therefore play a critical role in enforcing above rights in different areas of the nation. From your experience as a student, an employee or any other roles you hold, explain the following:

- a) With two examples, discuss how you understand gender mainstreaming. [4 marks]

- b) Name and explain the five principles of gender mainstreaming. [10 marks]
- c) With at least four examples, explain how gender mainstreaming can be effectively carried out in an institution of higher learning such as NUST. [8 marks]
- d) Suggest ways that the Government of Namibia and other partners can ensure gender mainstreaming is successful in various areas of the Namibian society including in the cultural set-up. [8 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

**Interpersonal Theories**

**[30 Marks]**

Using relevant examples, extensively explain the interpersonal theories of gender development.

**END OF EXAM – BEST OF LUCK**