

School of Public Affairs
American University
Comprehensive Doctoral Examination in Public Administration
September 8, 2006

Answer **THREE** questions in 4.5 hours. Try to minimize overlap in your answers.
If you answer question 4 do not answer question 7.

1. Most federal management reform efforts have emphasized the role of the executive branch rather than either the Congress or the courts. Discuss the consequences of this approach and alternative ways of dealing with it.
2. Despite the extensive use of the term "accountability" it is not a concept that is easily defined. Identify at least three writers about accountability and analyze the

agent theory, network theory, public choice theory, interest group mobilization theory, institutionalism, neoinstitutionalism, feminist theory, and constitutional-democracy.

8. One leading scholar critiquing the state of policy implementation research has mischievously argued that anyone introducing a new concept should be required to eliminate two existing concepts. Why would he make such a claim? In responding, be sure to address the level of theoretical development in policy implementation that has taken place during the first, second, and third generations of implementation research.