**CSUSB MPA Program**

**2023/2024 Comprehensive Exam Question Themes**

(for those following ***semester catalog only***)

You will answer one core course question (your choice), one concentration question (your concentration), and one integrative question (randomly assigned).

**Core Themes**

**PA 6030**

The proper use of surveys in applied public service organizational and community research.

**PA 6110**

Representative bureaucracy in contemporary public administration.

**PA 6550**

How to define, measure and monitor success in a strategic planning process.

**PA 6620**

The best practices in public service recruitment and candidate selection.

**PA 6630**

Equity and fairness in the allocation of resources.

**PA 6640**

The use of teams in public service management.

**PA 6800**

Internal and external stakeholder engagement and management in the policy process.

**Concentration Themes**

**Leadership Theme:**

Applying theories of ethical leadership to contemporary public service challenges.

**Nonprofit Concentration Theme:**

Sources of revenue and revenue diversification.

**Public Budgeting and Finance Theme:**

Fiscal stress and local government.

**Social Work Theme:**

How social work skills, knowledge, frameworks and theories can be applied to improve public services where social workers have not traditionally been present.

**Cybersecurity Theme**:

The major components of incident response, disaster recovery, and business continuity for a public organization.

**Comprehensive Themes (Randomly assigned, issue/scenario-based)**

1. Competency: to lead and manage in public governance.

**Financial/political crisis management**

1. Competency: to participate in and contribute to the public policy process. **Policy brief development**
2. Competency: to analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems and make decisions. **Decision analysis**
3. Competency: to articulate and apply a public service perspective. **Explaining public service to a layperson**
4. Competency: to communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.  **Managing cultural conflict**