

**BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**  
**FACULTY OF COMMERCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES**

COURSE : INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES  
COURSE CODE : PS 103  
DATE OF EXAM :  
TIME ALLOWED : 3 HOURS  
TOTAL MARKS : 100

JUN 2025

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Answer any four questions
2. Each question carries 25 marks
3. Cell phones are not allowed into the examination room
4. Begin each fresh answer on a new page

**QUESTION 1**

Critically analyse the role of the Interpretation Act Chapter 1:01.

[Total 25 marks]

**QUESTION 2**

What is the 'Mischief Rule'? Using decided cases, illustrate its relevance in interpreting statutory provisions.

[Total 25 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

In interpreting a statute, the question is: What does the statute as enacted mean?  
'Discuss the role and limitations of the 'Literal Rule' in answering the question.

[Total 25 marks]

#### QUESTION 4

Explain the following terms as they apply in Interpretation of Statutes;

- a) *Ejusden generis rule* (5)
- b) *Noscitur A Sociis* (5)
- c) *Expressio unis exclusio alterius* (5)
- d) *Casus Ominus* (5)
- e) *In Pari Materia* (5)

[Total 25 marks]

#### QUESTION 5

Using the Interpretation Act as it applies to every enactment in force in Zimbabwe. Explain the meaning given to the following words, citing relevant cases to clarify their application;

- a) Enactment (5)
- b) Contravention (5)
- c) Personal (5)
- d) Police Officer (5)
- e) Sign (5)

[Total 25 marks]

#### QUESTION 6

Evaluate Graham's theory of Originalism.

[Total 25 marks]

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**