

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

SECOND SEMESTER, 2012/2013

EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: **MAIN**

TITLE OF PAPER: **FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMICS FOR JOURNALISTS**

COURSE CODE: **JMC 218**

TIME ALLOWED: **TWO (2) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer **THREE (3)** questions.
2. Number 1 is **COMPULSORY**
3. Write **legibly**, that is, **boldly** and **clearly**.
4. Evince the principles of **composition** and **grammar**.

**THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED
BY THE INVIGILATOR**

JMC 218: FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMICS FOR JOURNALISTS

1. For starters, economists, specifically, authors of economic textbooks, usually ask three basic economic questions whose answers serve to telescope the study of Economics. In a similar manner, we may also ask three basic questions, with regard to Economics for Journalists, the third of which is: "Why should journalists study economics?"
(50 marks)
 - i) **State** the three often-posed "basic economic questions"; then, **explain** each question, **specifying** at least two *fundamental* economic concepts or principles/"laws" that the question entails. (25 marks)
 - ii) **Give** compelling reasons for journalists to study economics, and then **state** how you would use your knowledge of Economics for Journalists to *FRAME* the economy for effective coverage. (15 marks)
 - iii) **Comment on** the coverage of the economy in Swazi media, especially, newspapers. (10 marks)
2. **State** the positions of the various schools of thought in economics; then, **mention** the particular group of journalists whose work benefits the most from these schools, and **explain** why or how. (25 marks)
3. **Discuss** the basic economic and quasi-economic goals of society and **assess** how they are treated in the news media. (25 marks)
4. The National Budget is the most significant economic document produced in every country every year. **Explain** the significance and substance of the Budget and **examine** the role of the Press in the Budget Process, with particular reference to Swaziland. (25 marks)
5. "Perhaps, nothing ties the world together better than *TIES*." **Expose** what *TIES* entails in specific terms; then, **explain** why nations must trade and the problems they face doing so. (25 marks)
6. **Write** CONCISE notes on five (5) of the following. (25 marks)
 - (i) IMF and the World Bank
 - (ii) Money
 - (iii) Fiscal and Monetary Policy
 - (iv) Trade unions
 - (v) Economic systems
 - (vi) *TEN* and Public policy
 - (vii) Millennium Development Goals
 - (viii) Circular Flow model
 - (ix) Business Cycle
 - (x) Business organisations