

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

SECOND SEMESTER, 2015/16

EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: **MAIN**

PAPER: **JMC218: FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMICS FOR JOURNALISTS**

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

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

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

JMC218: FUNDAMENTALS OF ECONOMICS FOR JOURNALISTS

Answer **three** questions. Question 1 is **COMPULSORY** and carries 40 marks.
Every other question carries 30 marks.

1. One may assert that, “As members of a profession whose domain is society as a whole, journalists need to understand *social institutions*, with particular regard to the one that is invariably ‘the mainstay/backbone of society,’ to wit, the *economy*.” Therein lies the importance of *Economic Journalism*.
 - i) **Describe** the relationship between the economy and the other major social institutions; then, **explain** how the economy is the “mainstay” or “backbone” of society. **(15 marks)**
 - ii) **Describe** the major *functions* involved in Economic Journalism. **(10 marks)**
 - iii) **Examine**, systematically, SIX salient aspects of the economy which economic journalists need to understand in order to do their work well. **(15 marks)**
2. Every economy has some *actors* that play distinct roles in it. **Discuss** the roles of FOUR major actors in the economy, with examples from Swaziland.
3. **Identify** and **analyse** the *factors of production*; then **discuss** them with regard to the three major economic systems.
4. **Identify** and **explain** the *basic economic* and the *quasi-* or *socio-economic* goals of society; then, **comment on** the attention given to them in the Swazi media.
5. **Answer A or B.**

A: Explain the *basic economic problem* and the three fundamental questions confronted by every economy, with concrete examples.

B: Distinguish *economic growth* from *economic development* and **discuss** the elements of each.
6. If there is one thing that Governments live on, it is *taxation*.
 - i) **Identify** the major systems of taxation. **(5 marks)**
 - ii) **Explain** each of the systems of *taxation*. **(20 marks)**
 - iii) **Comment on** the controversy that surrounds taxation. **(5 marks)**