

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

SECOND SEMESTER, 2016/2017

EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: MAIN

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

COURSE CODE:           **JMC218**

TIME ALLOWED:           **TWO (2) 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 it carries 40 marks.

Every other question carries 30 marks.

1. Journalists study economics so that they can apply the knowledge gained therefrom to the performance of the functions of journalism.
  - (i) **Identify and explain** the two divisions and the two approaches that are traditionally adopted in the study of economics. (15 marks)
  - (ii) **Categorise** journalists according to the basic functions of journalism; then **state** how the knowledge of economics can enable each group of journalists to do its job more effectively. (10 marks)
  - (iii) **Describe** how economics may be digested and encapsulated, in one word, how it may be *framed*, to make it easy for journalists to apply their knowledge of the subject to their various functions. (15 marks)
2. Various activities constitute the *economy*, and to Stanlake (1998), “The study of this great variety of activities is made much easier by classifying them into three types of activity.”

**Explain** each of the three types of economic activity, with particular attention to the *factors* and *actors* involved in them.
3. **Discuss** *economic systems*, generally, and the economic system of Swaziland, particularly.
4. The role of Government in the economy cannot be overstated. **Examine** how Government manages the economy. In your examination, **identify and explain** specific economic instruments at Government’s disposal.
5. **Discuss** the nature of the relationship between the two social institutions, *Polity* and *Economy*; then, **consider** why the duo is of special interest in journalism and to journalists.
6. **Write concise notes** on five of the following.

(i) Scarcity and choice	(ii) Goods
(iii) <i>Basic</i> versus <i>quasi</i> economic goals	(iv) Taxation
(v) The National Budget	(vi) Factors of production
(vii) Economic <i>growth</i> OR <i>development</i>	(viii) Money
(ix) International trade	(x) Circular flow