

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : **SOCIAL PROBLEMS**

COURSE CODE : **SOC 411**

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

INSTRUCTIONS : **1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1

Explain the role of sociologists in defining social problems. Give examples.

QUESTION 2

Identify a social problem and discuss how symbolic interactionism would explain it.

QUESTION 3

Homelessness is one of the most extreme forms of social exclusion. Discuss.

QUESTION 4

Conflict theorists view social problems as a natural outcome of societal power arrangements. Discuss.

QUESTION 5

Poverty is not a result of individual inadequacies, but of overarching structural imbalances in society. Explain.

QUESTION 6

Symbols are the essence of social life including social problems. Discuss.