

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

TITLE OF PAPER : **ADVANCED THEORY AND METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY**

COURSE CODE : **SOC 413**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS :

- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

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

QUESTION 1

Define the term positivism and explain how social scientists justify the use of the methodology of the natural sciences in the study of social phenomena.

QUESTION 2

Provide a comparative analysis of any two metatheoretical traditions in the social sciences.

QUESTION 3

Analyse the importance of conceptual schemes and systems of propositions in theory construction.

QUESTION 4

Critically discuss the three dominant paradigms in sociology.

QUESTION 5

Citing relevant examples, examine the major components of an integrated sociological paradigm.

QUESTION 6

Provide a definition of feminist research and discuss the features that characterize the feminist research tradition.

QUESTION 7

Examine the controversy regarding the issue of objectivity and value freedom in sociological analysis.

QUESTION 8

Discuss the three broad areas of ethical concern in social scientific research.