

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2007

TITLE OF PAPER : **SOCIOLOGY OF ORGANIZATIONS**

COURSE CODE : **SOC408**

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

INSTRUCTIONS

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

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SOC408: SOCIOLOGY OF ORGANIZATIONS

QUESTION 1

Describe how the 'putting out' system works. Discuss three factors that hindered the rapid development of the factory system out of that mode of production.

QUESTION 2

Explain which of the two writers, that is, Frederick Taylor or Max Weber you would consider as the 'father' of modern organizations. Explain why in detail.

QUESTION 3

What do you understand by the term 'formalization'? What is the relationship between formalization and skilled professionals in an organization?

QUESTION 4

Why is effective communication necessary in an organization? What are the three main communication problems in modern complex organizations?

QUESTION 5

In what ways have Post-modernist theories of organization contributed to the understanding of the changing character of complex organizations?

QUESTION 6

Describe Robert Michels' 'Iron law of oligarchy'. Identify and discuss briefly three (3) changes that have occurred in the structure and management of organizations which may have softened the strength of the 'iron' in that law.