

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2008

<u>TITLE OF PAPER</u>	:	ADVANCED THEORY AND METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY
<u>COURSE CODE</u>	:	SOC413
<u>TIME ALLOWED</u>	:	THREE (3) HOURS
<u>INSTRUCTIONS</u>	1.	ANSWER ANY <u>FOUR</u> (4) QUESTIONS.
	2.	ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

**THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION
HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

SOC413: ADVANCED THEORY AND METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY

1. Max Weber and Emile Durkheim have contrasting viewpoints on systematic methodology in sociology. Compare their views, focusing on specific arguments of each sociologist.
2. Discuss critical theory's appraisal of both society and systems of knowledge with specific reference to its critique of modern society and positivism.
3. Discuss the term "heuristic model" and evaluate the structure, scope, and focus of the fundamentalist version of Karl Marx's base-superstructure model.
4. Citing appropriate examples, critically discuss Alfred Schutz's analysis of the lifeworld.
5. Outline the various steps in the research process and examine the obstacles faced by a sociologist in conducting research.
6. Give an account of the factors affecting internal validity in experimental designs and the use of experimental and control groups in social research.
7. Describe the various types of questionnaires and discuss the characteristics of a good questionnaire.
8. (a) "Statisticians' work is important in the field of sample statistics." Discuss.

(b) The following table shows the professional status and social origin of a sample of 2369 teachers.

<u>Social Origin</u>	<u>Professional Status</u>	
	<u>Head Teachers and Deputies</u>	<u>Assistants</u>
Non-manual	423	993
Manual	261	692

Use the Chi-square test to determine whether these data provide evidence that a teacher's professional status is associated with his/her social origin. Use a significance level of alpha .05.

Table F. Critical Values of Chi Square

df	Level of significance for a directional test					
	.10	.05	.025	.01	.005	.0005
	Level of significance for a non-directional test					
	.20	.10	.05	.02	.01	.001
1	1.64	2.71	3.84	5.41	6.64	10.83
2	3.22	4.60	5.99	7.82	9.21	13.82
3	4.64	6.25	7.82	9.84	11.34	16.27
4	5.99	7.78	9.49	11.67	13.28	18.46
5	7.29	9.24	11.07	13.39	15.09	20.52
6	8.56	10.64	12.59	15.03	16.81	22.46
7	9.80	12.02	14.07	16.62	18.48	24.32
8	11.03	13.36	15.51	18.17	20.09	26.12
9	12.24	14.68	16.92	19.68	21.67	27.88
10	13.44	15.99	18.31	21.16	23.21	29.59
11	14.63	17.28	19.68	22.62	24.72	31.26
12	15.81	18.55	21.03	24.05	26.22	32.91
13	16.98	19.81	22.36	25.47	27.69	34.53
14	18.15	21.06	23.68	26.87	29.14	36.12
15	19.31	22.31	25.00	28.26	30.58	37.70
16	20.46	23.54	26.30	29.63	32.00	39.29
17	21.62	24.77	27.59	31.00	33.41	40.75
18	22.76	25.99	28.87	32.35	34.80	42.31
19	23.90	27.20	30.14	33.69	36.19	43.82
20	25.04	28.41	31.41	35.02	37.57	45.32
21	26.17	29.62	32.67	36.34	38.93	46.80
22	27.30	30.81	33.92	37.66	40.29	48.27
23	28.43	32.01	35.17	38.97	41.64	49.73
24	29.55	33.20	36.42	40.27	42.98	51.18
25	30.68	34.38	37.65	41.57	44.31	52.62
26	31.80	35.56	38.88	42.86	45.64	54.05
27	32.91	36.74	40.11	44.14	46.96	55.48
28	34.03	37.92	41.34	45.42	48.28	56.89
29	35.14	39.09	42.69	46.69	49.59	58.30
30	36.25	40.26	43.77	47.96	50.89	59.70
32	38.47	42.59	46.19	50.49	53.49	62.49
34	40.68	44.90	48.60	53.00	56.06	65.25
36	42.88	47.21	51.00	55.49	58.62	67.99
38	45.08	49.51	53.38	57.97	61.16	70.70
40	47.27	51.81	55.76	60.44	63.69	73.40
44	51.64	56.37	60.48	65.34	68.71	78.75
48	55.99	60.91	65.17	70.20	73.68	84.04
52	60.33	65.42	69.83	75.02	78.62	89.27
56	64.66	69.92	74.47	79.82	83.51	94.46
60	68.97	74.40	79.08	84.58	88.38	99.61

The table lists the critical values of chi square for the degrees of freedom shown at the left for tests corresponding to those significance levels which head each column. If the observed value of χ_{obs}^2 is greater than or equal to the tabled value, reject H_0 . All chi squares are positive.

Source: Table F is taken from Table IV of Fisher and Yates, *Statistical Tables for Biological, Agricultural and Medical Research*, published by Longman Group Ltd., London (previously published by Oliver and Boyd, Ltd., Edinburgh), and by permission of the authors and publishers.

Chi-Square

$$\chi_{obs}^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$