

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY  
FINAL EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2012**

**TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL WORK AND  
SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**COURSE CODE: SOC 208**

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

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

**THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN  
GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR**

### **QUESTION 1**

Compare and contrast problem-solving approach with the strength-based approach. Use concrete examples to support your views. Which approach appeals to you and why?

### **QUESTION 2**

Social workers deal extensively with families, many of whom are involved in the painful process of separation or divorce. Many of these families include children who manifest debilitating symptoms of emotional, behavioural and academic problems following the break-up. Discuss how Art therapy can be a useful intervention for children and their families.

### **QUESTION 3**

Draw a social worker on a piece of paper; note the essential qualities and/or attributes of what you expect from a good social worker.

### **QUESTION 4**

Many social workers practice in settings, such as schools, in which they perform dual roles, protecting the community at large and vulnerable individuals, in addition to playing other supportive roles. In such case which principles and values of the social work profession must a social worker adhere to?

### **QUESTION 5**

#### **SCENARIO**

You receive a referral for a young woman, Louise, who is 24. She presented to her General Practitioner (G.P) two weeks earlier saying that she feels tired all the time, is having difficulty sleeping, has no motivation and is often tearful. Louise said that she was finding it difficult to be patient with her young son, Thomas (age 2), and often finds herself shouting at him. She worries that she is a bad mother. The G.P. has prescribed antidepressants following a two-week follow up and has referred Louise to your facilitated self-help.

- i) What type of things would you want to know at assessment?
- ii) What do you think is going on?
- iii) What might the difficulties of working with Louise be?
- iv) How would you assess risk?

During your assessment session Louise tells you that she is having fleeting suicidal thoughts but that she doesn't want you to tell her G.P. as it is further evidence that she isn't coping and Thomas could be taken into care. What do you do?

### **QUESTION 6**

#### **SCENARIO**

John, a 6-year old, was referred to the Center for an interdisciplinary team evaluation due to developmental and behavioural concerns. John's mother, Jessica, accompanied him to the assessment and was interviewed by the social worker. Jessica stated that she wanted to know what was wrong with John and what she could do to help him.

From the ecosystems perspective, how can a social worker look at how individual, family, and larger environmental structures affect John and his mother? What interventions are needed at each level to improve family functioning?