



UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

FIRST SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, NOVEMBER 2019

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

COURSE CODE: SOC423

TITLE OF PAPER: SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

Instructions

Answer any three questions.

Special Requirements

None

Additional Material (s)

None

*Candidates may complete the front cover of their answer book when instructed by the Chief Invigilator and sign their examination attendance cards but must **NOT** write anything else until the start of the examination period is announced.*

No electronic devices capable of storing and retrieving text, including electronic dictionaries and any form of foreign material may be used while in the examination room.

DO NOT turn examination paper over until instructed to do so.

SOC423: SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Discuss the diverse definitions of the terms *adaptation* and *transformation* in the context of social change. How are human actors, as intentional beings, implicated in these adaptive and transformative changes in society?
2. Critically discuss the linkages between the politics of production and digital technologies in contemporary society.
3. Define the term conspicuous consumption, and explain why affluent consumption and consumer culture have become increasingly widespread and dominant in modern society.
4. Discuss the different conceptualizations of development, and analyse McMichael's (2017) arguments regarding the nature of development as a global organizing principle.
5. Identify and discuss the strengths and limitations of the world systems theory as an explanation of global inequality.
6. How is environmental degradation explained from the actor-system dialectics (ASD) perspective? With specific reference to studies conducted by ASD teams, explain how environmental sustainability initiatives take place, succeed, or fail.