



UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

SECOND SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER,
NOVEMBER 2021

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

COURSE CODE: SOC413

TITLE OF PAPER: ADVANCED THEORY AND METHODS IN
SOCIOLOGY

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

Instructions

Answer FOUR questions:

- 1) Two questions from Section A; and
- 2) Two questions from Section B.

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.

SOC413: MAIN EXAMINATION 2020/2021

SECTION A

Answer TWO questions from this Section.

1. Critically discuss the key assumptions of any one metatheoretical tradition in sociology.
2. Compare and contrast the fundamentalist and dialectical interpretations of Karl Marx's base-superstructure model. Which interpretation do you find more compelling, and why?
3. Explain how Jürgen Habermas draws on the intellectual assumptions of his predecessors in his analysis of knowledge systems and their corresponding interests.
4. With reference to the concepts of intersubjectivity and the lifeworld, critically discuss Alfred Schutz's phenomenology of everyday life. Use examples to support of viewpoints.

SECTION B

Answer TWO questions from this Section.

5. Critically discuss the foundations of social research with specific reference to ontology, epistemology, and methodology.
6. Explain the purpose of the research design in social research and discuss the key features of the quantitative research design.
7. Assume that you intend to conduct a quantitative study on friendship networks and social economic status in a community. Specify your investigation's key concepts and explain how they will be empirically operationalized in your study.
8. Discuss the major ethical issues in the use of in-depth interviews in social research. Provide examples to illustrate your arguments.