DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND PLANNING

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER DECEMBER 2019 BASS II

TITLE OF PAPER:

URBAN AND ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

COURSE NUMBER:

GEP234

TIME ALLOWED:

THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. QUESTIONS 1 AND 4 ARE COMPULSORY.
- 2. ANSWER QUESTION 1 IN SECTION A AND CHOOSE ONE QUESTION BETWEEN 2 AND 3.
- 3. ANSWER QUESTION 4 IN SECTION B AND CHOOSE ONE QUESTION BETWEEN 5 AND 6.
- 4. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.
- 5. WHERE APPROPRIATE ILLUSTRATE YOUR ANSWERS WITH EXAMPLES.
- 6. ALL WORKING AND/OR CALCULATIONS MUST BE SHOWN.

THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY
THE INVIGILATOR

GEP234: URBAN AND ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

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SECTION A

ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

COMPULSORY

a) Distinguish between Primate City and the Rank Size Rule.

(4 marks)

b) With reference to Table 1, calculate the dominance of Windhoek and Manzini on the urban systems of Namibia and Eswatini respectively using:

i) The two-city index

(4 marks)

ii) The four-city index

(6 marks)

iii) The six-city index

(6 marks)

c) According to the calculations in b), which of the two, Windhoek and Manzini is a primate city? Explain your answer. (5 marks)

(25 Marks)

Table 1 Urban places and their population size in Namibia and Eswatini

Eswatini		Namibia	
Urban place	Population	Urban place	Population
Big Bend	10 342	Rundu	58 172
Malkerns	9 724	Windhoek	268 132
Manzini	110 537	Rehoboth	21 377
Pigg's Peak	5 750	Grootfontein	24 099
Mhlume	8 652	Katima Malilo	25 027
Mbabane	76 218	Oshakati	33 618
Nhlangano	9 016	Swakopmund	25 047
Siteki	6 512	Walvis Bay	52 058

QUESTION 2

'The Central Place Theory is a spatial theory in urban geography that attempts to explain the reasons behind the distribution patterns, size, and number of cities and towns around the world'. Discuss the validity of the statement. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 3

'Urbanization in most developing countries is characterized by informality'. Discuss the validity of this statement. (25 Marks)

SECTION B

ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION 4

COMPULSORY

Discuss the major factors that influence the exploitation of mineral resources in countries in the sub-Saharan region. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 5

Using Weber's Model, explain why manufacturing industries are concentrated in the Matsapha Industrial Estate instead of being spread out into the other industrial areas in Eswatini.

(25 Marks)

QUESTION 6

a) Provide three definitions of the concept of globalization.

(9 marks)

- b) State two African economic organizations in which Eswatini is a member and briefly describe their major functions. (6 marks)
- c) Explain the merits and demerits of global economy for a country such as Eswatini. (10 marks)

(25 Marks)