

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2018

**TITLE OF PAPER: ADVANCED THEORY AND
METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY**

COURSE CODE: SOC 413

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- (1) Answer Two (2) Questions from
Section A and Two(2) Questions from
Section B**
- (2) All Questions Carry Equal Marks**
- (3) Total Marks 100**
- (4) You are allowed to use a calculator**

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

Section A: Answer any two (2) questions from this section

- Q. 1 What makes science a special “way of thinking”? What are the important traits of positivist sociology? How does interpretive sociology differ from positivist sociology?
- Q. 2 Daniel Bell’s grand theory focused on the emergence of post-industrial society characterised by a transition from goods-production to service-provision. Discuss.
- Q. 3 The predominance of technology is producing a one-dimensional society in which people lose their ability to think creatively and critically. Discuss.
- Q. 4 Discuss the relevance of Emile Durkheim’s theory dealing with the changing division of labour and the transition from mechanical to organic solidarity in the context of Swaziland.

Section B: Answer any two (2) questions from this section

- Q.5 A study by Kasper Adelborg (2017) published in ‘The British Medical Journal (BMJ)’ found no association of migraine with periphery artery disease or heart failure. The study used the Danish National Patient Registry. Researchers matched 51,032 people with migraines, 71 per cent of them women, with 510,320 people in the general population without migraines. The subjects were, on average, age 35 at the start of the study, and researchers followed them for 19 years. The absolute risk of cardiovascular disease was small, unsurprising in a group this young. Nevertheless, after adjustment for other variables, over the course of the study people with migraines had a 49 per cent increased chance of heart attack, and roughly double the risk of stroke. They also had a 59 per cent increased risk of blood clot in their veins. These risks were higher in the first year after a migraine diagnosis.

In this study, identify the following:

- (a) the variables being studied
- (b) the hypotheses
- (c) independent, dependent, moderator and control variables
- (d) research design
- (e) ethical issues
- (f) sampling strategy
- (g) strengths and limitations of the study

- Q. 6 None of the major methods of sociological research – experiment, survey, participant observation and secondary research- is better than any other in an absolute sense, but each is suitable for addressing a certain type of question or situation. Explain.
- Q. 7 Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative methodologies with regard to their basic assumptions, concepts and key arguments.
- Q. 8 The contingency table below shows information about 470 stutterers aged 14 years or younger who receive therapeutic intervention from speech and language pathologists. Each stutterer also suffers from one other accompanying problem.

<u>Accompanying Problem</u>	<u>Therapeutic Intervention</u>		
	<u>Stuttering Therapy only</u>	<u>Both Stuttering Therapy and other Therapy</u>	<u>Other Therapy only</u>
Articulation Disorder	10	155	5
Language Disorder	8	90	7
Language Disability	6	60	9
Other Problem	4	62	54

Is there evidence to indicate that there is a difference in the distribution of the proportions of sufferers with accompanying problems and the type of therapeutic intervention? Test at 1% level of significance.

SOC 413 (ADDENDUM)

$$\chi^2_{\text{observed}} = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

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.

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