UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS AND DEMOGRAPHY

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER: SELECTED THEMES IN DEMOGRAPHY

COURSE CODE : DEM 408

TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM EACH SECTION [FOUR QUESTIONS IN ALL]

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS OF 25 EACH

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR

SECTION A

QUESTION ONE

[25 marks; 5 marks each]

Discuss each of the following topics:

- [a] Active labour force
- [b] Basic needs
- [c] Occupational mobility
- [d] Importance of manpower
- [e] Human capital

QUESTION TWO

[25 marks]

[a] Critically examine the Malthusian theory of population. [12.5 marks]

[b] What are the main negative consequences of population growth? Appropriate reference to Swaziland will be an advantage.

[12.5 marks]

QUESTION THREE

[25 marks]

[a] What are the various manifestations of under-utilization of labour in developing countries?

[12.5 marks]

[b] Identify the major government policies that can promote employment opportunities in any given developing country.

[12.5 marks]

QUESTION FOUR

[25 marks]

[a] Discuss the various environmental factors that affect manpower planning?

[12 marks]

[b] Examine the Employers Opinion Method of estimating future manpower requirements.

[13 marks]

SECTION B

QUESTION FIVE

[25 marks; 5 marks each]

Write explanatory notes on the following concepts:

- [a] Social security
- [b] Moonlighting
- [c] Casual labour
- [d] Child labour
- [e] Minimum wage

QUESTION SIX

[25 marks]

[a] Rural-urban migration has important policy implications for the development strategy. Discuss this statement.

[11marks]

[b] Examine the causes of and remedies for international brain drain in developing countries. Make specific reference to Swaziland.

[14marks]

QUESTION SEVEN

[25 marks]

"In recent years, economists have begun to look more closely at the microeconomic determinants of family fertility in an attempt to provide a better theoretical and empirical explanation for the observed falling birthrates associated with stage III of the demographic transition". [M.P. Todaro and S.C. Smith]. With particular reference to this statement, critically examine the microeconomic household theory of fertility.

QUESTION EIGHT

[25 marks]

[a] What are the determinants of labour supply and demand?[b] Outline the major features of the labour market in Swaziland.

[15 marks]

[10marks]