



UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SPECIAL EXAM

COURSE: SOCIOLOGY 3A **TIME:** 3 HOURS
COURSE CODES: SOS3A11 / SOC3AA3 **MARKS:** 100

PAPER:

SECTION A: SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS
SECTION B: SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

EXAMINERS:

1. DR SN NGCWANGU AND MR D DU TOIT (UJ)
2. DR S MOLAPO (UP)

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO PAGES

SECTION A: SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS [50 MARKS / 90 MINUTES]

Instructions

1. Write in full sentences and structure your writing in a logical order.
2. Complete all questions.

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS:

QUESTION 1:

By reading the synopsis of "The Aversion Project 1970s" case study below, critically discuss some of the ethical issues involved in this study? **[10]**

South Africa's apartheid army forced white lesbian and gay soldiers to undergo 'sex-change' operations in the 1970's and the 1980's, and submitted many to chemical castration, electric shock, and other unethical medical experiments. Former apartheid army surgeons estimate that as many as 900 forced 'sexual reassignment' operations may have been performed between 1971 and 1989 at military hospitals, as part of a top-secret program to root out homosexuality from the service. Army psychiatrists aided by chaplains aggressively ferreted out suspected homosexuals from the armed forces, sending them discretely to military psychiatric units. Those who could not be 'cured' with drugs, aversion shock therapy, hormone treatment, and other radical 'psychiatric' means were chemically castrated or given sex-change operations. Although several cases of lesbian soldiers abused have been documented so far—including one botched sex-change operation—most of the victims appear to have been young, 16 to 24-year-old white males drafted into the apartheid army.

Turn page

QUESTION 2:

Critically compare and contrast each of the following research designs and give examples in your discussion.

- (i) Experimental research design;
- (ii) Case study research design;
- (iii) Longitudinal research design;
- (iv) Cross-sectional research design.

[16]

QUESTION 3:

A researcher wants to study how a group of Humanities professors feel about stress levels at work. He plans to conduct interviews with ten Humanities professors working at UJ. He obtains a list of all full professors in the humanities faculty at UJ. The list shows there are 60 female and 40 male professors. He selects 6 female and 4 male professors to do the study with them.

- a) Is this qualitative or quantitative research? Why? [2]
 - b) Is the sampling probable or non-probable sampling? Why? [2]
 - c) What is the sampling technique? [1]
 - d) Name one strength and one weakness of the sampling technique and motivate your answer [4]
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QUESTION 4:

A researcher wants to find out how many students drop out from university every year. It is important to ensure that every university in the country has an equal chance of being chosen so that generalisations can be made. He obtains a list of every university, assigns each a number and, using an online random number generator, creates a list of universities to which he can send his questionnaire.

- a) Is this qualitative or quantitative research? Motivate why. [2]
 - b) Give one advantage and one disadvantage of the chosen research approach in a). [2]
 - c) Is the sampling probable or non-probable sampling? Why? [2]
 - d) What is the sampling technique? [1]
 - e) How would you analyse the data. Give an example. [2]
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QUESTION 5:

What are some of the argument for and against the use of a mixed methods research approach

[6]

SECTION B: SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

[50 MARKS / 90 MINUTES]

Instructions

1. Write in full sentences and structure your writing in a logical order.
2. Complete **any two** of the following three questions
3. Each question counts 25 marks

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

QUESTION 6

The Japanese Management Techniques (JMT's) – also referred to as Lean Production - have been associated with a break from Fordist production. But what implications does this have on the working conditions of workers in South Africa? Illustrate your discussion by referring to the auto-components company in South Africa that adopted the JMT model and argue whether it was successful or not.

[25]

QUESTION 7

The biggest trade union federation in South Africa is the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) which grew in the context of struggles for improved wages for workers and the struggles for democratic change in South Africa. What structural factors have affected COSATU's role since the 1990s? How has being part of the African National Congress (ANC) alliance influenced COSATU's role in the labour environment? How has the changing class character of COSATU membership presented new contradictions within the federation? In your discussion draw on the articles by Webster and Buhlungu (2004) as well as that of Bezuidenhout, Bischoff and Nthejane (2017).

[25]

QUESTION 8

In an economy where more and more people are involved in service work, an increasing number of jobs involve carrying out what can be called emotional labour. But what is emotional labour? What are the different categories of emotional labour? How is it monitored? What implications does emotional labour have for the service employee? Illustrate your discussion by referring to a specific South African case study.

[25]