



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES & EDUCATION

NHSA 421: Sociology of Science & Technology

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

APRIL/MAY 2026

LECTURER: MRS C RAPANDO

DURATION: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper contains **TWO** sections (Section A and Section B).
2. Section A is **COMPULSORY**.
3. Answer **ANY TWO (2) questions** from Section B.
4. Start each question on a new page in your booklet.
5. Credit will be awarded for logical, systematic and neat presentation
6. Do not repeat material.

SECTION A: COMPULSORY

INSTRUCTION: *Answer Question 1.*

Question 1

A developing country introduces an AI system that will allocate university scholarships. Civil society groups are opposed to it by claiming that the system is likely to disadvantage students from rural and low-income backgrounds. However, officials argue the system is objective and data-driven.

- a. Using insights from Sociology of Science and Technology (SST), critically analyze this scenario. **[20 marks]**
 - b. Discuss objectivity, power, inequality, and ethics as they apply to scientific decision-making. **[20 marks]**
- [40 Marks]**

SECTION B

INSTRUCTION: *Answer ANY TWO (2) questions.*

Question 2

Explain why studying science and technology sociologically contributes to understanding scientific institutions and technological change. **[30 marks]**

Question 3

Critically examine the relationship between scientific knowledge and society and tease out the extent to which science can be considered objective and neutral. **[30 marks]**

Question 4

- a) Differentiate between common-sense knowledge and scientific knowledge basing on themes covered on this course. **[15 marks]**
- b) Apply sociological principles to evaluate the strengths and limitations of each. **[15 marks]**

Question 5

Using relevant examples, demonstrate how scientific “facts” are socially produced. **[30 marks]**

END OF PAPER