



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES & EDUCATION

SOC1103 INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

APRIL/MAY 2026

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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

You are an anthropologist conducting research on a small rural community in Zimbabwe. You plan to study local farming practices and social interactions during communal workdays. You live in the village for three months, joining in daily activities while taking detailed field notes.

Questions:

- a. Discuss the methodological advantages and limitations of using participant observation in this scenario. **[20 Marks]**
- b. What ethical considerations must you keep in mind when conducting research in this community? **[10 Marks]**
- c. How might your presence influence the behavior of community members, and how can you minimize this effect? **[10 Marks]**
[40marks]

SECTION B

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

Question 2

As a social worker you are assigned to work in a rural African community where traditional leaders play a central role in decision-making. Discuss how knowledge of social anthropology would assist you as a social worker in this situation. **[30 Marks]**

Question 3

Evaluate Bronislaw Malinowski's contributions to the field of anthropology and their lasting impact on the discipline. **[30 Marks]**

Question 4

Critically analyse the factors that have contributed to the commercialisation of marriage in contemporary African societies. **[30 Marks]**

Question 5

Discuss how religion serves as a mechanism of social control, with reference to African indigenous religions. **[30 Marks]**

END OF PAPER