

The
Management
University
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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

SWK 404 : CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SOCIAL WORK

DATE: 15TH APRIL 2026

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS: A FAMILY FROM SUDAN

In Eldoret, a mid-sized city in Kenya, the local social services department faces increasing demand for services from diverse populations. The social workers in the department have been assigned to different areas of focus to support three vulnerable groups: refugees and immigrants, older adults in need of elder care, and individuals experiencing poverty and homelessness.

The city has recently seen an influx of refugees from a war-torn country, an aging population with growing needs for long-term care, and a visible rise in homelessness due to economic challenges. The social workers in these areas are tasked with developing interventions that address the specific needs of each population while considering cultural, social, and economic factors. Among the population that are to be supported are the refugees and immigrants.

A family of six led by their father Abdul Malik, including four children under the age of 12, has recently arrived in the city as refugees from Sudan. They have experienced trauma from the war, the loss of family members, and displacement. They speak little English and are struggling to adjust to life in their new country. The children show signs of emotional distress and are falling behind in school. The parents are unemployed and face challenges in accessing health care, housing, and employment due to language barriers and their undocumented status.

Compassionate Hands Group is a non-governmental organization has been contracted by the Eldoret City Council. Through the social services department the organization has been assigned to follow-up on the cases of refugees and immigrants more so those from Sudan. As a social worker at Compassionate Hands, you have been assigned as the case worker for Abdul Malik and his family. You are required to make weekly follow-up on their refugee status, education and health support to the family and social integration into their new environment.

Required:

- a) Explain six legal and social challenges that you have observed that face immigrants and refugees as presented in the case study above. (12 MARKS)

- b) Analyze four variety of interventions that as a social worker you can provide to the refugees and immigrants. **(8 MARKS)**
- c) Elaborate five areas that technology can be applied in the case study above. **(5 MARKS)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) Define the following concepts:
- i. International social work **(2 MARKS)**
 - ii. Comparative social work **(1 MARK)**
- b) There are different categories of institutions and agencies that employ social workers for international social work. Discuss four institutions that provide career opportunities to social workers at the global stage. **(12 MARKS)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Propose six benefits associated with integrating technology into social work practices. **(12 MARKS)**
- b) Briefly explain three attributes of a social worker you think are most important in providing social services. **(3 MARKS)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) In Kenya, foster care and adoption services have not been embraced by the citizens. Differentiate five points between foster care and adoption services. **(10 MARKS)**
- b) Describe five ethical principles in social work today. **(5 MARKS)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Identify and discuss five causes of homelessness in Kenya **(10 MARKS)**
- b) In Kenya, elaborate using two points the role social workers play in foster care and adoption services. **(5 MARKS)**

QUESTION SIX

Examine at least five sustainable development goals (SDGs) in relation to social work citing relevant examples. **(15 MARKS)**