

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : **SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

COURSE CODE : **SOC 301**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS :

- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

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

QUESTION 1

How does Durkheim apply the concept of social integration in his analysis of suicide.

QUESTION 2

Critically discuss Talcott Parsons' general system of action with specific reference to the cybernetic hierarchy.

QUESTION 3

Evaluate Max Weber's arguments regarding the rationalization of society.

QUESTION 4

Examine Ralf Dahrendorf's thesis that systematic conflicts are always caused by the differential distribution of authority.

QUESTION 5

How does socialist feminism explain structural oppression?

QUESTION 6

Explain the extent to which social stratification is inevitable and functional for society. Provide examples to support your viewpoints.

QUESTION 7

Identify and discuss the social-structural impediments to the development of class consciousness among the working class in contemporary societies.

QUESTION 8

To what extent would you agree with Jean Baudrillard's argument that contemporary societies are characterized by simulations?