

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2010

TITLE OF PAPER : SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

COURSE CODE : SOC301

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

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

THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SOC301: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

1. Define the term sociological theory, and discuss the key features that distinguish the theorizing of sociologists from that of laypeople.
2. Evaluate Max Weber's arguments with regard to interpretive understanding and social action.
3. Citing appropriate examples, analyse the broad assumptions about human nature adopted by symbolic interactionism.
4. Provide an assessment of Robert Merton's structural functionalism.
5. How does Emile Durkheim use the concept of social integration to develop his typology of traditional and modern society?
6. To what extent would you agree with Ritzer's argument that McDonaldization is a force in globalization, especially increasing cultural homogenization?
7. Compare and contrast any two variants of feminist theory with specific reference to their assumptions about gender oppression and structural oppression.
8. Discuss the major tenets of a sociological theory of postmodernity according to Zygmunt Bauman.