

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2014

TITLE OF PAPER : **SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

COURSE CODE : **SOC301**

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

INSTRUCTIONS 1. **ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS:
TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM
SECTION A, AND TWO (2)
QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**

2. **ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL
MARKS**

TOTAL MARKS: 100

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

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION – JULY 2014

SOC 301: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

SECTION A:

Answer TWO questions from this section

1. Explain how the development of sociology and sociological theory was influenced by political revolutions and the rise of socialism.
2. Discuss the extent to which Emile Durkheim's typology of suicide meets the methodological requirement that priority should be given to social facts over psychological conditions.
3. Explain what is meant by the term mode of production, and examine how Karl Marx posited the relationship between the material base and the ideological superstructure.
4. Define the term rationality, and critically discuss the different types of rationality according to Max Weber.

SECTION B:

Answer TWO questions from this section

5. Examine Talcott Parsons's general system of action with specific reference to the cybernetic hierarchy.
6. How does socialist feminism explain structural oppression?
7. Evaluate Robert Merton's structural functionalism.
8. Using appropriate examples, critically discuss Jean Baudrillard's view that contemporary societies are characterized by loss of symbolic exchange and an increase in simulations.