

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK**

**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2016**

**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.**

**MAIN EXAMINATION – MAY 2016**

**SOC301: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

**SECTION A**

***Answer TWO questions from this section.***

1. Compare and contrast the approaches of any two classical theorists with regard to their analysis of social order and social change.
2. Explain why Karl Marx questioned the fundamental basis of Hegel's idealist philosophy.
3. With specific reference to Emile Durkheim's *The Division of Labour in Society*, explain how social cohesion and social solidarity are manifested in different societies.
4. Discuss Max Weber's analysis of the relationship between *this-worldly* matters that shape economic life and *other-worldly* concerns of religious life.

**SECTION B**

***Answer TWO questions from this section.***

5. Examine the relationship between Talcott Parsons's AGIL framework and his analysis of the general system of action.
6. Critically discuss the socialist feminist explanation of structural oppression.
7. Analyse the key arguments of Ralf Dahrendorf's conflict theory. Provide examples to support your arguments.
8. Define Jean Baudrillard's notion of hyperreality, and discuss the main manifestations of hyperreality in contemporary society.