

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK**

**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER – MAY 2018**

- TITLE OF PAPER : SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**
- COURSE CODE : SOC301**
- TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS**
- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER FOUR(4) QUESTIONS:  
TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM EACH  
SECTION.**
  - 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL  
MARKS**
  - 3. TOTAL MARKS: 100**

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

## SOC301: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

### SECTION A

*Answer TWO questions from this section.*

1. Explain how the intellectual movements of the era of Enlightenment influenced the development of sociology and sociological theory.
2. Analyse Auguste Comte's theoretical and methodological contributions to the discipline of sociology.
3. Define dialectical materialism and explain how, according to Karl Marx, the contradiction between the means of production and relations of production would ultimately precipitate a crisis and lead to a proletarian revolution.
4. In his book, *The Rules of Sociological Method*, Emile Durkheim asserts that the first and most basic rule is to consider social facts as things. Discuss this statement using examples.

### SECTION B

*Answer TWO questions from this section.*

5. Examine Robert Merton's criticism of the basic postulates of functional analysis. What suggestions does he provide regarding how the limitations of functional analysis can be overcome?
6. Critically discuss the sociological significance of conflict with specific reference to Lewis Coser's analysis of the functions of social conflict.
7. Define the concepts of *intersectionality* and *matrix of domination*, and examine Patricia Hill Collins's arguments on intersectionality and interlocking systems of oppression.
8. Explain how Michel Foucault uses the concepts of power and knowledge to analyse the structure of domination in society. Use examples to support your viewpoints.