

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2019

TITLE OF PAPER : CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

COURSE CODE : SOC314

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS.
2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

TOTAL MARKS : 100

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

SOC314: CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

1. Discuss the fundamental flaws in functional theorizing identified by Robert Merton. To what extent does Merton's net balance analysis address these shortcomings?
2. With reference to the work of Ralf Dahrendorf, explain how contemporary conflict theories differ from classical Marxist thought.
3. Define ethnomethodology, and critically discuss Harold Garfinkel's view that ethnomethods are reflexively accountable. Use examples to support your arguments.
4. Explain what Anthony Giddens means by the term "duality of structure" and evaluate his contribution to the agency-structure debate.
5. Provide a comparative analysis of any two strands of contemporary feminist theory.
6. Examine how George Ritzer builds upon and extends the Weberian theory of rationalization in his McDonaldization thesis.