



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2021/2022 Academic year
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR OF ARTS
ASC 324: CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

Date: _____

Time: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE

- a) Discuss 5 factors that led to the rise of sociological theory. 20 Marks
- b) Briefly contrast and compare two micro-level theories 10 Marks

QUESTION TWO

- a) Compare and contrast theories of power from one classical and one contemporary social theorist. 20 Marks

QUESTION THREE

- a) Compare Marx's and Durkheim's image of society and the threats to modern society seen by each theorist. What are the major structural factors that each saw as being problematic and coercive of individuals? How did each see the changing relationship of individuals to society over time? 20 Marks

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Explain the factors that make up a good theory according to renowned sociologists. 10 Marks
- b) Discuss the relevance of social theories and how they can be applied in society today. 10 Marks

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Discuss Marx's Conflict theory and how it is applicable in day to day life. Expound on the statement "all elements of a society's structure depend on its economic structure" 20 Marks



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SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ASC 324: CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

Date: _____

Time: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE

- a) Describe and discuss the four strategies of theorising as outlined by Johnson et al . 15 Marks
- b) Analytically discuss the central tenets of Critical Theory and the Frankfurt School. 15 Marks

QUESTION TWO

- a) How do contemporary social theorists approach the notion of globalisation? 10 Marks
- b) What is critical theory, where does it come from and why does it take issue with positivistic assumptions? 10 Marks

QUESTION THREE

- a) Define theory. In your definition be certain to explain the purpose, building blocks and goals of theory. 10 Marks
- b) What is reflexivity and how can it be central to social theorising? 10 Marks

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Feminist theory can be seen as general critique of society, as opposed to a theory solely advocating for the emancipation of women. Critically discuss how feminism could be seen as a general social critique. 20 Marks

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Theorists make assumptions. Provide three that sociologists usually make, describing each and why it is important in the work of theory. 20 Marks