

EAST LONDON CAMPUS

SOC312E

INS312E

DEGREE EXAMINATIONS EXTERNALISED ASSESSMENT FOR 2023

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THEORY

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Time: 3 Hours

Marks: 100

Subject: Contemporary Social Theory

This paper consists of 2 pages including the cover page

Internal Examiners:

External Examiner:

Mr KT Pikirai &

Dr T Mambiravana

Dr C.Chinguno

Instructions:

ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

ALL QUESTIONS ARE EQUAL IN VALUE

Please remember that it is in your interest to write legibly

EXTERNALISED ASSESSMENT JUNE 2023
Contemporary Social Theory:
SOC312E/INS312E

Question 1

Sociological theories are classified based on differences in (i) methodology, (ii) objectives, (iii) subject matter, (iv) assumptions, and (v) perspectives. Write a brief essay explaining how you would differentiate contemporary theories based on any **four classifications** of your choice. **(33.3 Marks)**.

Question 2

"Conspiracy theories have become popular today," (Muhammad, 2014:3). Discuss why conspiracy theories have grown in popularity in recent years, and propose strategies that individuals, organizations, and governments can use to combat them. **(33.3 Marks)**

Question 3

Discuss the Methodological techniques used in analysing conflict as propounded in Lewis Coser's Social Change Theory and Mills's three types of power. **(33.3 Marks)**

Question 4

One of the most influential philosophers of under the rational choice theories is George Homans. Outline and critically examine his five propositions regarding Human Behaviour. **(33.3 Marks)** **(33.3 Marks)**

Question 5

Critically discuss the different approaches to functional analysis adopted by Talcott Parsons and Robert Merton. In your discussions explain Merton's most significant contributions to functionalist theory **(33.3 Marks)**

Question 6

Critically discuss the World Systems Theory and demonstrate how it aids us in understanding our world economically, politically and socially. **(33.3 Marks)**