

# EAST LONDON CAMPUS

SOC312E

INS312E

## DEGREE EXAMINATIONS SUPPLEMENTARY EXTERNALISED ASSESSMENT FOR 2023

### CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THEORY

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Time: 3 Hours

Marks: 100

Subject: Contemporary Social Theory

This paper consists of 4 pages including the cover page

Internal Examiners:

External Examiner:

Mr Kelvin Pikirai & Dr Tafadzwa Mambirava

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

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SUPPLEMENTARY EXTERNALISED ASSESSMENT 2023

Contemporary Social Theory:

SOC312E/INS312E

Question 1

Examine Robert Merton's Theory of Deviance, and use your own examples to demonstrate how social factors influence deviant behavior in contemporary society (**33.3 Marks**).

Question 2

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 3

Herbert Blumer describes three core premises of human interaction. Demonstrate your understanding of these premises. In your explanation, use examples from daily social experiences. (**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**)

Question 5

"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 6

What are the key theoretical differences between critical conflict theorists and analytic conflict theorists? Use Ralph Dahrendorf's conflict theory of society to highlight the differences between the two traditions regarding conflict in society. (**33.3Marks**)