

**Exam SOCA26 – autumn 2019**

The exam consists of four (4) questions. Each answer can give a maximum of (10) points. The total number of points is 40. Pass requires 15 points. The grade C requires 25 points. The grade B requires 30 points, and grade A requires 35 points or more.

The answers must be written in this compendium

*Bear in mind:*

- Reflect on your answer before you start writing.
- The course contents should be reflected in your answers.
- Define key concepts.
- It is generally helpful to provide real world examples to illustrate your lines of thought.
- *Write clearly. If the answers cannot be read, they cannot be graded either.*

Good luck!

Olle

1. Describe how Marx conceived of labor/objectification, use /exchange value, class and the drivers of historical development (dialectics), as well as the meaning of key concepts such as alienation, commodification, base/superstructure, and ideology. What is the role of capitalism for global development according to Marx? Consider why Marx vision of modernity did not come to pass, the way he expected it to.

2. Describe Durkheim's conception of the basis of social order, and how social orders change in the course of modernization/division of labor (that is, during the transformation of agricultural societies into industrialized societies). Discuss his ideas concerning the division of labor and social integration. What types of societal pathologies can result from different forms of problematic division of labor? How did Durkheim view social facts. Describe how Durkheim considered suicide as a societal pathology and how different types of suicide may result from different levels of societal integration. Finally, consider some problems with a functionalist view of society.

3. Describe Parsons' four subsystems (AGIL) and how social order/equilibrium is reached between them. How do roles/statuses change in modernizing societies in terms of Parsons' five pattern variables? Finally consider some of the problems with Parsons' modernization theory, and describe how Merton sought to alleviate some of these problems. Describe Merton's notion of anomie and give examples of how individuals may relate to a given society's cultural goals and opportunity structures. Provide examples of how Merton's schema can be used to explain various global social challenges.

4. A) Describe how inequalities are reproduced in modern societies according to Pierre Bourdieu. Describe what Bourdieu meant by habitus and its relationship to various institutional fields, as well as the role of different types of capital in creating/reproducing various forms of inequality.

B) Consider Foucault's' critical view of modernity: More specifically, how did Foucault view the relationship between science, discourses and power, such as bio-power (in so doing, you may compare Foucault's view of power with Weber's notion of power and authority)