

# **FEDERATION QUALIFYING THEORY EXAMINATION**

Federated Ph.D. Sociology Program  
Texas Woman's University  
University of North Texas

**Fall 2008**

## **BEFORE BEGINNING:**

Read through the questions and instructions so that you may make wise use of your choices and time.

Try to focus on the intent of the questions and approach them as comprehensively as time allows.

You will have until 5:00 p.m. to complete the examination. You should spend approximately half of your time on Parts I and II (two questions) and half of your time on Part III (three questions). The questions of Part III are intended to be more focused and topically limited.

PLEASE **DOUBLE-SPACE** YOUR ANSWERS. THE BEGINNING OF EACH ANSWER SHOULD START AT THE TOP OF A NEW PAGE AND BE CLEARLY NUMERED.

Do not put your name on your paper. Use your assigned number, which is \_\_\_\_\_.

Part I. BROAD SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS – Choose and write on one question

1. Compare and contrast ONE classical and ONE contemporary sociological theory of the transition from feudal to capitalist society
2. Compare and contrast ONE classical and ONE contemporary sociological theory of social conflict.
3. Compare and contrast ONE classical and ONE contemporary sociological theory of social integration.
4. Compare and contrast ONE classical and ONE contemporary sociological theory of the relationship between society and religion.

Part II. DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL THOUGHT– Choose and write on one question

1. Discuss the influence of ONE classical on ONE contemporary stratification theory.
2. Discuss the influence of ONE classical on ONE contemporary structural-functional theory.
3. Discuss the influence of ONE classical on ONE contemporary theory of social evolution.
4. Discuss the influence of ONE classical on ONE contemporary conception of sociological laws.

Part III. SHORT QUESTIONS – Choose and write on three questions

1. Briefly discuss Comte's hierarchy of positive sciences
2. Briefly discuss Spencer's Social Statics and Dynamics
3. Briefly discuss Simmel's idea of conflict as social interaction
4. Briefly discuss Marx's distinction between different stages of capitalism
7. Briefly discuss Weber's definition of the Spirit of Capitalism
8. Briefly discuss Pareto's theory of social cycles
9. Briefly discuss Veblen's concept of a leisure class
10. Briefly discuss Mannheim's distinction between ideology and utopia
11. Briefly discuss Parsons' social subsystems
12. Briefly discuss the Thomas sociological theorem
13. Briefly discuss Merton's modes of adaptation
14. Briefly discuss Sorokin's socio-cultural systems
15. Briefly discuss Dahrendorf's theory of class and class conflict
16. Briefly discuss Habermas' concept of the life-world
17. Briefly discuss Bourdieu's concept of cultural capital
18. Briefly discuss Giddens' idea of duality of structure
19. Briefly discuss neo-functionalism
20. Briefly discuss Beck's risk society

