

## FEDERATION COMPREHENSIVE THEORY EXAMINATION

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

Fall 2006

### 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 pm. 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 NUMBERED.

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

BROAD SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS -Choose and write on one question

1. Compare and contrast a classical and a contemporary sociological theory of one of the following dichotomies:

*Capitalism and Socialism; Tradition and Modernity; Western and Non-Western worlds.  
Individual and Society.*

2. Discuss the impact and continuing relevance of one of the following classical works on sociological theory and practice:

*Durkheim's Suicide, Weber's Protestant Ethic, Simmel's Philosophy of Money, Marx's Capital*

3. Compare the theories of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim with respect to one of the following debates:

*Social Stratification, Sociology of Religion, Social Change, Social Movements.*

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

1. Discuss the influence of one classical on one contemporary sociological theory of *Social order, human nature, evolution of society.*
2. Discuss the European influences on early American Sociology.
3. Examine the view that there is a significant difference between the writings of: (choose only one person.)

--*The young and mature Marx*

-- *The young and mature Comte*

-- *The young and mature Durkheim*

III. SHORT QUESTIONS--Choose and write on three (3) questions

1. Briefly discuss Comte's hierarchy of sciences
2. Briefly discuss Spencer's distinction between status and contract society
3. Briefly discuss Marx's distinction between feudal and capitalist society
4. Briefly discuss Weber's definition of Calvinism in relation to capitalism
5. Briefly discuss Durkheim's conception of anomie
6. Briefly discuss Parsons' AGIL system
7. Briefly discuss Merton's concept of structural strain
8. Briefly discuss Dahrendorf's conditions for class formation
9. Briefly discuss Habermas' concept of civil society (life-world)
10. Briefly discuss Bourdieu's notion of symbolic capital
11. Briefly discuss Goffman's concept of Total Institutions
12. Briefly discuss Rousseau's Social contract
13. Briefly discuss Giddens' theory of structuration
14. Briefly discuss the significance of the works of one female sociologist from the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.
15. Briefly discuss the significance of the sociology of WEB Dubois
16. How do you assess the contribution of sociology to the social struggles of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?
17. Briefly discuss Mead's concepts of I, me, and generalized other.
18. Briefly discuss the significance of the works of one male sociologist from the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.