

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – (2013/2014)
 FINAL EXAMINATION - LEVEL V (SEMESTER I)
 SSU3207 – SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES AND RESEARCH METHODS



DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS)

Date: 24.11.2013

Time: 09.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Please answer only 5 questions. Please answer **3 questions** from Part I and **2 questions** from Part 2. Each question carries 20 marks. Please read the questions carefully. You should spend approximately 30 minutes per question.

Part I

- 1 a. Discuss the key features of critical theory. Provide an example of critical theory to illustrate your answer.

OR

- b. Discuss some of the assumptions within sociological research.
- 2 a. "Durkheim's book on Suicide is groundbreaking in terms of its contribution to sociological method". Discuss if you agree or disagree with this statement.

OR

- b. According to Durkheim, what are the forces that create social order?
- 3 a. Critically discuss Parsons' idea of social equilibrium.

OR

- b. According to Parsons, what orients social action?
- 4 a. Evaluate the contribution of Marx to the theoretical perspectives of the Frankfurt School.

OR

- b. Compare and contrast Marx and Dahrendorf.