

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES  
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES  
 (OLD SYLLABUS) – (2018/2019)  
 FINAL EXAMINATION – LEVEL V (SEMESTER I)  
 SSU3207 – SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES AND RESEARCH METHODS



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS ONLY

Date: 16.02.2019

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer five (05) questions only. Each question carries 20 marks.

1. Why does the discipline of sociology have a theoretical perspective? Discuss.
2. What is functionalist perspective? Describe referring to relevant examples from Sri Lankan society.
3. How do sociologists explain social evolution? Describe referring to various theorist's explanations.
4. "Conflict theoretical approach put forward by Ralf Dahrendorf seems to be very practical in today's liberal socio-economic context". Critically review this statement.
5. Explain the steps of a research process referring to a research on either (a) child labour or (b) garbage issues in Sri Lanka.
6. Describe a research design. Pay special attentions to the merits and demerits of the selected design.
7. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using sampling techniques in a research.
8. "Quantitative research is more suitable for female researchers than male researchers". Discuss the above statement.
9. Write short notes on any **four (04)** of the following:
  - (i) Emile Durkheim (1858-1917)
  - (ii) Conflict Theoretical Perspective
  - (iii) The manifest and latent functions.
  - (iv) Michel Foucault's explanation of power and knowledge
  - (v) Research problem
  - (vi) Research hypothesis
  - (vii) Qualitative research