

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MA DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY 2013/2014
MARGA-OUSL COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME – LEVEL VIII
SSP2129/2103 - CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THOUGHT AND PUBLIC
POLICY
FINAL EXAMINATION – 2013



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 07.12.2013

Time: 9.30a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer four (04) questions. Each question carries 25 marks.

1. The democratic public sphere as seen through the work of Jurgen Habermas is not only a structural force in politics but a critical part of the architecture of good governance. Explain with reference to the prevailing democratic order in post-war Sri Lanka.
2. The key attributes of modernity as explained through the work of Inkeles are best installed in the minds of people in transitional societies if they are to be globally competitive. Discuss critically.
3. Why is qualitative research as a technique used in research, and why is it important for Kabeer?
4. Caroline Moser emphasises the need to address questions relating to measurement of poverty. Discuss with examples.
5. Discuss the relationship between modernity and development with reference to the work of Escobar.
6. Discuss Appadurai's analysis of the dimensions of global cultural flows.
7. Discuss Appadurai's description of globalization and how it impacts on development in today's context.
8. "Symbols are not to be studied to gain access to mental processes, but as formations of social phenomena". Discuss this statement with reference to Geertz and his analysis of religion.

*******All Rights Reserved*******