UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2010

TITLE OF PAPER : SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

COURSE CODE : SOC301

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4)

QUESTIONS.

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL

MARKS

THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SOC301: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

- 1. Using appropriate examples, critically discuss the defining characteristics of social facts according to Emile Durkheim.
- 2. To what extent is Karl Marx's theory relevant to a post-communist world?
- 3. Drawing on the basic assumptions of conflict theory and structural functionalism, compare and contrast the two theories' position with regard to social order and social change in society.
- 4. Evaluate Max Weber's arguments with regard to interpretive understanding and social action.
- 5. Examine the theoretical and methodological contributions of Charles Horton Cooley to the discipline of sociology.
- 6. Using Patricia Hill Collins's (1990) notion of matrix of domination, discuss how intersectionality theory explains women's experience of structural oppression in society.
- 7. Discuss George Ritzer's grand theory of the consumer society and the new means of consumption. Provide relevant examples to illustrate your answer.
- 8. Critically discuss Michel Foucault's arguments regarding non-state related governmentalities.