 LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034

**M.Sc.** DEGREE EXAMINATION - **MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY**

SECOND SEMESTER – APRIL 2011

# SO 2807 - CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

Date : 05-04-2011 Dept. No. Max. : 100 Marks

Time : 1:00 - 4:00

**Part – A**

*Write a short note on the following in about 30 words each* (10 x 2 = 20 Marks)

1. Opportunity cost.
2. Operant conditioning.
3. Exchange network.
4. Positioning.
5. Discursive consciousness.
6. Hermeneutic knowledge.
7. Symbolic violence.
8. Framing.
9. Rules and resources.
10. Undistorted communication.

**Part – B**

*Answer any Five questions in about 300 words each* (5 x 8 = 40 Marks)

1. Why did Emerson consider power as central concept in explaining exchange theory?
2. What is public sphere? Why did Habermas propose to resurrect it?
3. How did Gramsci’s concept of Hegemony have a major influence on post-war Western Marxism?
4. Why is there a crisis of rationality in the modern world?
5. How is manufactured risk produced by the modernization process?
6. How does Foucault’s conceptualisation of power differ from that of the Marxists?
7. Explain Peter. M. Balu’s concepts of norms and values.

**Part – C**

*Answer any Two questions in about 1200 words each* (2 x 20 = 40 Marks)

1. Summarize and assess the theory of Structuration.
2. Explain in detail how Bourdieu explains the concepts of habitus and field in his empirical study called Distinction.
3. Examine how Althusser’s structuralist interpretation of Marxism liberated the intellectuals of the rigid determinism of orthodox Marxism?
4. ‘Knowledge gives power and power controls knowledge’. Do you agree/disagree? Argue with examples.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*