

**NOTE: Precise wording of a question may change if it comes to my attention that the question is poorly worded.**

**DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY  
ANTH 303 ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY  
FINAL EXAM**

**Instructor: Dr. Susan Vincent**

**Date: 12 December 2017**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**This quiz is marked out of 70 and is worth 35 % of your final mark in this course. The goal is to test your ability to understand and explain major features of the theoretical perspectives, as well as to think critically about them. FOR PARTS ONE AND TWO YOU MAY NOT WRITE ON A THEORIST ON WHOM YOU HAVE PRESENTED NOR ONE ON WHOM YOU WROTE FOR YOUR ESSAY.**

**PART ONE. (10 marks) Choose ONE of the following concepts to explain.** Be clear in your explanation. It is helpful to include a clear and comprehensive explanation, provide an example to show you know how it works, and to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of the concept.

**The actual exam will include FOUR of the following choices.**

1. Explain what Goffamn means by “discreditable.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
2. Explain what Butler means by “gender.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
3. Explain what Mullings means by “Sojourner Syndrome.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
4. Explain what Wylie means by “objectivity.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
5. Explain what Geertz means by “culture as an assemblage of texts.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
6. Explain what Roseberry means by “culture as material social process.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.

7. Explain what Bourdieu means by “habitus.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
8. Explain what Foucault means by “biopower.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
9. Explain what Biehl means by the “judicialization of biopolitics.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
10. Explain what Latour means by “network.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
11. Explain what Watson means by “imitation.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
12. Explain what Narotzky means by “flexible work process.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.
13. Explain what Pinelli means by “homo sacer.” Give an example and outline strengths and weaknesses of this concept.

**PART TWO. (30 marks) Write on ONE of the following questions with a short essay.** Strong suggestion: Use the following format to present your argument. “In this essay I argue that [give your position] because [or ‘on the basis of’] [your reasons, that you will support with evidence in the evidence section.]” Remember to give a thesis statement with your argument; to define the concept; and to present evidence with your analysis to explain the insights or drawbacks to the concept. You should finish with a short conclusion.

**The actual exam will include THREE of the following choices.**

13. Compare and contrast how Butler and Mullings approach the study of gender. Which is the better approach? Why?
14. Evaluate Roseberry’s criticism of Geertz. Which do you agree with and why?
15. Evans uses Bourdieu to understand how working class girls think about higher education. Would she be better off using Foucault? Why or why not?
16. Compare and contrast Biehl’s framework with that of Narotzky with respect to the potential for the analysis to help bring about change for the people being studied. Does Biehl’s Foucauldian biopolitical perspective or does Narotzky’s contemporary Marxist perspective offer more promise? Why?

17. Apply Latour's Actor Network Theory to the rise and fall of archaeological theories, as described by Wylie. Compare it to Wylie's defence of standpoint theory (similar to intersectionality). Which is better? Why?
18. Compare Latour's Actor Network Theory to Bourdieu's analysis of higher education in France. What similarities and differences are there? Which is better? Why?
19. How would Geertz analyse the refugee camp studied by Pinelli? Which is the better approach? Why?

**PART THREE. (30 marks). At the beginning of the course you wrote what you felt was the purpose of theory. Having completed the course, write an essay in which you reflect on your original answer, and discuss how you would answer that question now. Include references to at least three readings and related course material (excluding those on which you wrote in Parts One or Two). In addition to these, you may also refer to one of the theorists on which you wrote your paper, but remember I am looking to see that you have a broad understanding of the theoretical ideas we discussed in the course.**

**THE END**