

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:–

*B.A.*

**MES 203: German Political and Social Thought**

COURSE CODE : **MEST0203**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **19-MAY-06**

TIME : **14.30**

TIME ALLOWED : **2 Hours**

**MEST0203 GERMAN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT**

- Answer **TWO** questions.
- Do **NOT** answer a question on the topic of your *assessed* course essay.
- Do **NOT** draw substantially on the same material for more than one answer.

1. *Either* (a) 'The "materialism" of Marx's theory of society and history could be considered a strength rather than a weakness.' Discuss.  
*Or* (b) Give a critical assessment of the relationship between politics and economics in Marx's works.
2. *Either* (a) How does Weber seek to achieve 'adequacy' in his interpretative sociology?  
*Or* (b) 'Weber's analysis of disenchantment and rationalization is teleological.' Discuss.
3. *Either* (a) How convincing do you find the methodological premises of Adorno's critical theory?  
*Or* (b) 'The culture industry has not only distorted communication, in Adorno's view; it has fundamentally altered the nature of social interaction.' Discuss.
4. *Either* (a) How do you explain the centrality of 'communicative action' in Habermas's philosophy of social science?  
*Or* (b) How does Habermas account for the legitimation, and crises of legitimation, of modern societies and polities?

**END OF PAPER**