

Ollscoil na hÉireann  
National University of Ireland, Galway.

## MASTERS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Professor Palle Svensson  
Professor Huw Beynon  
Professor Chris Curtin  
Dr. Tony Varley

## SOCIOLOGY OF WORK

Time allowed: Three Hours.

ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS.

1. Compare and contrast the classical approaches to work, as these are found in the ideas of Marx, Weber and Durkheim.
2. EITHER  
Describe Scientific Management and the problems associated with it. Are there alternatives to Scientific Management?  
OR  
How plausible is Harry Braverman's contention that choice of technology in capitalist societies is always influenced by considerations of the control of labour?
3. Examine Robert Blauner's argument that technology operates as the key determinant of work satisfaction and alienation. Are there difficulties with the Blauner thesis?
4. EITHER  
Can the 'regulation of industrial conflict' be said to be the principal role trade unionism plays in modern society?  
OR  
Consider the manner in which trade unions have responded to the introduction of new technology.
5. EITHER  
Examine the impact of 'Japanisation' on present-day manufacturing techniques and industrial relations.  
OR  
Describe the pattern of 'Japanese-style' employment in Japan and consider the problems now confronting it.
6. 'New technology is transforming the office in our time'. Discuss.
7. Present an account of the so-called 'flexible specialisation' thesis. How well is it supported by the available evidence?
8. 'The nature of the relationship between technology and work is inherently controversial'. Discuss.