

Ollscoil na hEireann
National University of Ireland, Galway

Winter Examinations 1999-2000

SOCIOLOGICAL AND POLITICAL STUDIES

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Industrial Sociology (INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS)

Time allowed: THREE Hours

Answer three questions

1. Examine the problems associated with scientific management and consider the alternatives to it.
2. 'There is a close link between the sociology of social class and the sociology of industry'. Discuss.
3. Consider the differences between Taylorism/Fordism and bureaucratic modes of work organisation.
4. EITHER
How plausible is Harry Braverman's contention that the choice of technology in capitalist societies is always influenced by considerations of labour control?
OR
Examine Robert Blauner's argument that the skill requirements of work rise with the appearance of continuous process industries.
5. EITHER
Consider the manner in which trade unions have responded to the introduction of new technology.
OR
Can the 'regulation of industrial conflict' be said to be the principal role trade unionism plays in modern society?
6. Describe the pattern of 'Japanese-style' employment in Japan and consider the difficulties now facing it.
7. Examine the differences between Britain and Germany in the pursuit of flexible specialisation.
8. Is the transformation of office work an inevitable consequence of new technology? Discuss.