

CORVINUS UNIVERSITY OF BUDAPEST, MASTER'S DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY  
FINAL EXAMINATION INFORMATION  
FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED IN 2019

According to the legislation in force, one of the conditions for completing a Master's degree is that students have to pass the final examination in the subjects specified below.

The final oral examination takes place in front of a committee.

Subjects concerned:

1. theoretical knowledge and main subjects connected to the MA program
  - theories of global social changes
  - technology and society
  - gender and work
2. methodological skills

In the final exam, students have to analyse one of the questions in detail. In the answer, they have to give an integrated account of his/her knowledge of the related theory and methodology.

The examination questions:

- 1. Based on the work of Polanyi, please evaluate the idea that market economy as the ultimate form of social development. Please, pay attention to such concepts like forms of markets, forms of integration, double movement, fictitious commodities.**

Karl Polanyi (1944, 1957) *The Great Transformation*. Baecon Press, Boston. (pp. 45-81)  
The following chapters: 4· Societies and Economic Systems p. 45-; 5· Evolution of the Market Pattern p. 59-; 6. The Self- Regulating Market and the Fictitious Commodities: Labor, Land, and Money 71- 81

- 2. Please provide a critical analysis of historical time and change in the modernization theories of demographic change on the basis of the following texts:**

Melegh, Attila (2006), *On the East-West Slope*. Globalization, nationalism, racism and discourses on Eastern Europe. Central European University Press. pp. 60-75

van de Kaa, Dirk (1987): Europe's second demographic transition. *Population Bulletin*, 42/1. 1. 1–57.

Zelinsky, Wilbur (1971) *The Hypothesis of the Mobility Transition* *Geographical Review*, Vol. 61, No. 2 (Apr., 1971), pp. 219-249. Selected parts

- 3. How would you analyse the link between migration and globalization on the basis of world-systems and modernization theories on a macro level. Think about alternative hypotheses and how they can be checked and on the basis of what types of databases?**

Sassen, Saskia [1988] 2006: *Foreign investment: a neglected variable*. In Messina, Anthony M. – Lahav, Gallya (eds.): *The Migration Reader*. Exploring Politics and Policies. Lynne Rienner Publishers, London, 596–608.

de Haas, Hein (2010a). *Migration transitions*. A theoretical and empirical inquiry into the developmental drivers of international migration. DEMIG project paper, 1. International Migration Institute (IMI), Oxford Department of International Development, Queen Elizabeth House (QEH), University of Oxford.

- 4. Please, introduce the key items of the European Social Survey which can be used to measure anti-migrant attitudes and construct two more items and argue what they would help in understanding.**

Messing, Vera; Ságvári, Bence (2019) *Still divided but more open: Mapping European attitudes towards migration before and after the migration crisis* / Vera Messing -Bence Ságvári. -Budapest : Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Regional project "Flight, Migration, Integration in Europe", 2019.

Messing V, SÁgvári B. (2018) Looking behind the culture of fear: Cross-national analysis of attitudes towards migration.. Budapest: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.

**5. Based on the concept of social shaping of technology (Mackenzie- Wajcman 1999), discuss some examples where such shaping can be observed!**

MacKenzie, D. – Wajcman J. (1999): Introductory essay: the social shaping of technology. In: MacKenzie, Donald and Wajcman, Judy, eds. *The social shaping of technology*. 2nd ed., Open University Press, Buckingham, UK. ISBN 9780335199136

Abdulrahman E.A. Al Lily (2013): The social shaping of educational technologies in Saudi Arabia: An examination of how the social fabric shapes the construction and use of technologies, *Technology in Society*, 35, 203–222

**6. Introduce the concept of technological determinism (Dotson 2015). Discuss some examples of expectations of the future where such technological determinism can be observed!**

Dotson, T. (2015): Technological Determinism and Permissionless Innovation as Technocratic Governing Mentalities : Psychocultural Barriers to the Democratization of Technology. *Engaging Science, Technology, and Society*, 98 - 120

**7. How can the sociology of expectations be used to discuss the future related to the development of artificial intelligence? Introduce some important tenets and concepts of the sociology of expectations and show how they can be applied to the debate on the future of work and artificial intelligence!**

Vicsek, L. (2020), "Artificial intelligence and the future of work – lessons from the sociology of expectations", *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJSSP-05-2020-0174>

**8. Based on the concept of “gender revolution” coined among others by Paula England (2016, 2020) assess the development of gender equality locally (in your country/region) and globally! Discuss the supporting and limiting factors in trend!**

England, P., Levine, A., & Mishel, E. (2020). Progress toward gender equality in the United States has slowed or stalled. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(13), 6990-6997.

World Economic Forum (2021) *Global Gender Gap Report 2021*, <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-report-2021> (related parts)

**9. Women’s growing labour market participation and contemporary capitalism’s “disinvestment from social welfare” (Fraser 2016: 104) lead to serious tensions between production and reproduction. Describe the contradictions on local and global level as well!**

Hochschild, A. R. (1998). The Nanny Chain: Mothers Minding Other Mothers' Children. *The American Prospect* (January 3, 2000), 32-6.

Fraser, N. (2016). Contradictions of capital and care. *New Left Review*, 100(99), 99-117.

**Criteria for answering the questions:**

Criterion 1: Describe the theoretical and academic background of the problem in question (based on classical and contemporary authors). Summarize the theoretical and historical relevance of the problem.

Criterion 2: Describe the theories, models and previous research applied to answer the question. While describing the theories and models, explain the social mechanism(s).

Criterion 3: What kind of empirical implications can be derived from the theories and models presented? Formulate your hypotheses in concrete terms!

Criterion 4: What type of research method would you apply to investigate the empirical implications? What kind of alternative explanation(s) can be formulated for the empirical consequences?