

**CLASS ANALYSIS AND HISTORICAL CHANGE**  
**WRITTEN PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**  
**AUGUST 1996**

**MORNING EXAMINATION**

Answer Question 1 in Part I and one question from Part II.

**Part I.**

**Question 1. Theories/concepts:** Pick five (5) of the following theorists and discuss their central contribution to the indicated concept. Be sure to be precise in your description. What do you consider to be the principal shortcoming of their analysis?

Poulantzas	the relative autonomy of the state
Gramsci	hegemony
Lukacs	class consciousness
Lenin	dictatorship of the proletariat
Burawoy	factory regime
Habermas	domination-free communication
Roemer	exploitation
Przeworski	class compromise
Marcuse	critical theory

[Note: because we are asking you to write on five of these concepts we know that you cannot be comprehensive in your answers to any of them. We want these answers to be to the point, dealing with the central conceptual contributions, rather than with side issues.]

## MORNING EXAMINATION

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**Part II. Answer one question: (Question 2 or Question 3 below).**

### **Question 2. Class Structure:**

Take two contrasting general frameworks for defining and understanding the concept of "class structure" and do the following:

- (a). Discuss the theoretical foundations and rationale for each framework.
- (b). Pick some important empirical or historical problem and examine how each of the frameworks you have chosen would treat the problem.

Be sure in your answer to explore the weaknesses/limitations of each of the frameworks.

### **Question 3. Marxisms:**

There are different interpretations of Karl Marx's writings, and diverse "Marxisms" today. Over the last several decades, two of the most important have been (1) Hegelian Marxism, and (2) analytical Marxism. Compare and contrast the interpretations of Marx that are offered by these two schools. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of both interpretations, and argue for your own preference between the two.