MAY 2012
SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

MODULE CODE: SA4059
MODULE TITLE: Living with Material Culture
EXAM DURATION: 3 hours
EXAM INSTRUCTIONS
Candidates should answer THREE questions
Do not overlap your answers to different questions.
Ethnographic examples should be used to illustrate all your answers

PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER THIS EXAM PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.
1. What ethical issues might arise in collecting and curating an exhibition of other people’s material culture?

2. What did Pallasmaa mean when he said ‘The hands are everywhere in our body’?

3. What does it mean to be skillful?

4. Does the relationship between the community and the market (Gudeman) challenge or develop the idea of the ‘social life of things’ (Appadurai)?

5. What is revealed and/or concealed through clothing and body decoration?

6. ‘A building isn’t something you finish, it is something you start’: Stuart Brand. Discuss this statement in relation to the idea of dwelling.

7. If art does not simply represent, what does it do?

8. What social factors link different acts of recycling? Discuss giving ethnographic examples.

9. Can material culture contribute to our understanding of social memory?