MAY 2013

SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

MODULE CODE: SA4005
MODULE TITLE: The West Indies and the Black Atlantic
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. Show how ONE of the topics listed below can provide a persuasive analytical viewpoint from which to comprehend the Caribbean as a socio-historical whole:
   
   a. Marcus Garvey, Bob Marley, Africa and ‘Ethiopianism’
   
   b. Race, class, gender and the slave plantation
   
   c. Pirates, Maroons and borderlands in the Caribbean
   
   d. Carnival, cricket and the performance arts in the West Indies
   
   e. ‘Fleeing the Plantation’ – post-emancipation labour migration
   
   f. Revolution, resistance and opposition in the Caribbean

2. Why has there been so much discussion of modernity and the individual social actor in the anthropology of the Caribbean? What have we gained from this discussion?

3. Explore some of the affinities between verbal and bodily performance and religious consciousness in the Caribbean.

4. Dualism constantly recurs as a point of discussion in anthropological theorising concerning the West Indies. Explore why this may be so.

5. How have anthropologists tried to build human movement into their models of Caribbean social and cultural life? Have these attempts created specific kinds of analytical problems?

6. The anthropological study of kinship in the Caribbean has never been able to shake of the stereotype that family life in the region is ‘chaotic’ and ‘dysfunctional’. Discuss.

7. Freeman has argued that Caribbean socio-economic ‘flexibility’ fits closely with capitalist accumulation strategies. Discuss this view in the light of anthropological studies of social behaviour in the region.

8. Explore some of the affinities between creolisation and cosmopolitanism as these feature in discussions of West Indian social life.