FINAL EXAMINATION
SPRING SESSION 2006

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND LANGUAGES

Student Family Name: ____________________________
Student Given Names: ____________________________
Student Number: _________________________________

Unit Name (In Full): Contemporary Society
Unit Number: 100960
Time Allowed: Two hours
No reading time.
Number of Questions: Two questions to be attempted
Total Number of Pages: One
Lecturer's Name: Associate Professor Scott Poynting

INSTRUCTIONS
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING

1. Write your name and student number on the top of this examination paper and on ALL answer booklets.

2. This is a SEEN examination. No books, papers or notes of any kind in computer files or other information storage devices, are permitted to be brought into the examination room.

3. Answer two of the three questions, in essay form.

4. Each question is of equal value: 50% of examination marks (20% of course marks) each.

5. Calculators are not needed and not allowed. Please write your answer to each question on a separate booklet. Make sure your name is on each one. Indicate clearly which question you are attempting. Write on one side of the page only. Answers must be clearly legible, and marks will be deducted for poor expression.

DO NOT TAKE THIS PAPER FROM THE EXAMINATION ROOM
Answer, in essay form, two of the following three questions. Answers must be clearly legible, and marks will be deducted for poor expression.

**Question 1:**
Compare and contrast the theory of class as the social relations of production with that of class as social stratification. To what extent may the two perspectives be held in common? In your discussion, give examples of social class in contemporary Australia, and globally. Refer either to colonialism or globalisation or both.

**Question 2:**
What is meant in the social sciences by the term gender? How can we explain the contemporary gender order in Australia and globally? Discuss theories of biological determinism, sex role theories, theories of patriarchy and theories of gender order involving patriarchal dividend or exploitation. What impact have the various ‘waves’ of women’s movement or feminist movements had on gender relations?

**Question 3:**
Compare and contrast the ‘Redfern riots’ of February 2004 with the ‘Cronulla riots’ of December 2005. Discuss these in relation to at least one other ‘riot’ of contemporary times. Assess the part played by the state in relation to each of these. Bring to this discussion your understandings of gender, of class, and of the position and experiences of Aboriginal people in contemporary Australia (and elsewhere, where relevant).

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER