

**Department of Justice, Law and Society**  
**Master' Comprehensive Examination**  
**Law and Society**  
**Spring 2006**

**Instructions:** Answer any two of the following four questions. Include in your answers references to the relevant literature, case law and other sources. Label each answer by number. Please begin each answer on a new page. Remember to write your 4-digit ID number on all pages.

1. Focus on the more important social science theories of lawmaking, the ways in which legislatures, administrative agencies, and courts make laws; the role of vested interests, public opinion and social science in the decision-making process, and the source of impetus for laws. Whose interests do laws serve in the end?
  
2. Law and society theorists have attempted to explain the relationship between legal and social change in the context of the development of social institutions. Law can be seen as both a dependent and as an independent variable. Examine the interplay between law and social change. Start your answer with defining social change.
  
3. Outline and compare Durkheim, Marx and Weber's theories of how legal systems change in response to other broad scale social transformations. Compare their arguments in a systematic way. Discuss the implications of these theories for Western law.
  
4. Scholars writing in the law and society field have proposed various definitions of the law. Identify three of these definitions found in the works mentioned in the Law and Society reading list. Review the implications of each of these definitions for the relevance of moral theory to jurisprudence.