



# THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

EXAMINATIONS OF \_\_\_\_\_ **APRIL/MAY 2008**

CODE AND NAME OF COURSE: **EDSS2113: THE STRUCTURE AND NATURE OF  
SOCIAL STUDIES**

DATE AND TIME:

**DURATION: 2 HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: This paper has **3** page(s) and **6** questions.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS



1. (a) Explain the nature and the importance of concepts in Social Studies. (8 marks)
- (b) Select a **major** concept in Social Studies, and show, through a diagram, its relationship to relevant facts and at least **two (2)** generalizations. (6 marks)
- (c) Assess the benefits of your diagram in teaching the concept identified in (b) above. (6 marks)
2. (a) What do you understand by 'the nature of Social Studies'? (5 marks)
- (b) Suggest a rationale for teaching Social Studies as part of the school curriculum in your country. (10 marks)
- (c) How would you define 'Social Studies'. (5 marks)
3. "Using the community as a resource."
  - (a) Explain what the above term implies. (4 marks)
  - (b) Assess (i) the potentials, and (ii) the drawbacks of this approach to teaching Social Studies. (8 marks)
  - (c) Suggest, and outline, **two (2)** examples of how a Social Studies topic can be taught outside of the classroom. (8 marks)

Please go on to the next page ➡



4. (a) Why is it essential/critical to promote inquiry and investigation in the teaching of Social Studies?  
(8 marks)
- (b) Identify **two (2)** teaching techniques/methods, and explain how each can be applied to facilitate inquiry and investigation in the Social Studies classroom.  
(8 marks)
- (c) Suggest **two (2)** implications that this approach to teaching Social Studies would have for the assessment of student learning.  
(4 marks)
5. (a) Why is Social Studies considered, and designed, as an “integrated” subject? Explain, using examples.  
(8 marks)
- (b) Select a topic in Social Studies, and draw a concept map to show what aspects of other subjects/disciplines can be integrated into the teaching of the topic.  
(6 marks)
- (c) If Social Studies is a goals-driven curriculum, suggest how the teaching of the topic identified in (b) above can address any three of the major goals of Social Studies.  
(6 marks)
6. (a) What do you understand by the term : “the spiral curriculum”.  
(5 marks)
- (b) Why, in your view, is this type of curriculum structure ideally suited to Social Studies?  
(6 marks)
- (c) For the topic “The family”, outline in chart or diagram form, how you would spiral/plan to teach this topic between **each** of the age-groups 6-9 (Grades 1-3, or Class Infants B - Class 2).  
(9 marks)

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**