Education Qualifying Exam Spring 2019

**Instructions:**

Answer 3 of the 4 questions.

Each answer should be between 10-15 pages

1 inch margins, 11-12 point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced

**Note: Refrain from using similar readings or approaches across different questions.**

**Please include a signed Plagiarism statement with your exam submission (e-signature is fine):**

Plagiarism refers to the use of another’s ideas or words without proper attribution, or credit. This includes, but is not limited to: copying from the writings or works of others into one's academic assignment without attribution, or submitting such work as if it were one's own; using the views, opinions, or insights of another without acknowledgment; or paraphrasing the ideas of another without proper attribution. Credit must be given: for every direct quotation; when a work is paraphrased or summarized, in whole or in part (even if only brief passages), in your own words; and for information which is not common knowledge. The requirement to give credit applies to published sources, information obtained from electronic searches and unpublished sources. I confirm that this assignment is my own work, is not copied from any other person’s work (published or unpublished).\*

SIGNATURE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Some of the procedures and definitions contained in this policy statement are taken from UCSB’s Academic Honesty Policy, http://hep.ucsb.edu/people/hnn/conduct/disq.html.

1. Sociologists of education often examine how different types of capital shape the educational experiences and trajectories of youth. Please discuss three different types of capital, addressing similarities and differences in how they are sustained. Consider the role forms of capital play in both social class and racial educational inequalities.
2. You are a policymaker considering how to remedy educational inequalities at either the K-12 or postsecondary level. You must design two policy solutions to address any kind of inequality in your chosen level of schooling (e.g., social class disparities in college completion, high levels of bullying of LGBTQ+ youth, racial segregation in higher education—there are many possibilities here). In order to convince the stakeholders and funders, you will need to first explain how the inequality is developed and occurs. You will then need to lay out a plan to approach your chosen issues, based on existing research on the topic.
3. A substantial amount of research in sociology of education considers the role of educational institutions in magnifying and/or diminishing the connection between social class origins and individual occupational and other life outcomes. Evaluate the existing evidence on this matter and make an argument about whether you think educational institutions more often increase or more often decrease the influence of social class on life outcomes. Be sure to explicitly discuss in your answer the different methodological approaches (qualitative, quantitative, and/or mixed methods) as well as some of the kinds of data, samples, and measures employed in various studies on this topic, and indicate how you think the methodological choices employed by scholars does (or does not) influence their findings.

(Subarea question)

1. What has diversity meant in the context of higher education? Has diversity created more inclusion on campus? Does university diversity rhetoric benefit students of color? How do higher education institutions use diversity to benefit themselves?