



## Sosialantropologisk institutt

### ***SOSANT2250 Anthropological perspectives on Norway and the Nordic countries***

**Scheduled exam – Autumn 2004**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Read the exam guidelines (“hjemmeoppgave”) at**

**<http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/sv/sai/SOSANT2250/h04/annet/SOSANT2250.doc>**

**<http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/sv/sai/SOSANT2250/h04/SOSANT2XXX.doc>**

**before you start the assignment.**

**Due date: Tuesday November 30th at 10:00, Aud. 4, Eilert Sundt's  
house (SV-bygget), Blindern.**

The language of this course is English. The exam must be answered in English.  
Each student will be given a candidate number when they hand in their exam paper on  
the due date.

*Best of luck!*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Answer one of the following four questions:**

1. In *The Rational Humanitarians*, Hans L. Zetterberg makes the following statement:

*The welfare state may be unlikely to flourish except in a civilization in which values of neighborly love and charity have been preached for generations: yet its establishment in Scandinavia is mostly the work of a generation of atheists or lukewarm believers. It is the product of a political struggle over the distribution of income and privilege, not a gift from heaven (p. 94).*

Look critically at the last part of the statement in particular. On the basis of other texts on the reading list, discuss whether it is reasonable to portray key values underlying the welfare state – such as equality – as products of conflict.

2. Anthropology focuses on how social forms and patterns are shaped by social interaction. Demonstrate such processes with reference to some characteristics of Nordic culture.



## Sosialantropologisk institutt

3. Discuss class relations in Nordic culture. Make use of at least three different texts on the reading list.

4. In *The Cultural Construction of Norden*, puritanism is strongly emphasized. Discuss whether it is possible to identify aspects of this tradition in contemporary Nordic countries.