

National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

SUMMER EXAMINATIONS 1999/2000

PHILOSOPHY

THIRD ARTS EXAMINATION

Second Paper (Pi307/Pi323/Pi318/Pi321)

Professor B. Cullen
 Professor M.H. Woerner
 Dr. T. Duddy
 Dr. F. O'Murchadha

Time allowed: Three hours

Answer three questions, one from either Section A or Section B, and one from each of the remaining sections. Use separate answer-books for each section.

For Visiting Students only: If taking one or two modules only answer one question in each module.
Time Allowed: One hour per module.

Section A: Pi323 Philosophy of Law Weighting 1

1. 'Law depends for its ultimate efficacy on the degree to which it is backed by organized coercion.' Discuss, with particular reference to the role of coercion in the social contract theories of Hobbes and Locke.
2. Outline and discuss Bentham's critique of natural rights.
3. Outline the contrasting responses of Devlin and Hart to the claim that there must remain a realm of morality which is not the law's business.
4. Explain why a liberal conception of law gives rise to the problem of paternalism, and outline and discuss Dworkin's attempt to justify paternalistic legislation.
5. Discuss the claim that the sole objective of legal punishment is retribution.

Section B: Pi307 Philosophy of History Weighting 1

1. Write a critical essay on Augustine's Theology of History. In what sense is it philosophically relevant?
2. What is "millenarianism" and what are its historical effects? Discuss.
3. What is Enlightenment and its role in history? Discuss with reference to Immanuel Kant's "What is Enlightenment"?

4. Write a critical essay on Kant's "Idea of a Universal History from a Cosmopolitan Point of View" with special reference to his theory of human nature as "unsocial sociability".
5. What is meant by "progress" in historical developments? Discuss
6. Is history the development of freedom? Discuss with special reference to Hegel's Philosophy of History.
7. What is wrong with Hegel's Philosophy of History - according to Marx? Discuss.
8. What is the use of studying history - according to Nietzsche? Discuss.

Section C: Pi318 Philosophy of Religion II Weighting 1

1. Discuss Derrida's contention that there are two distinct, though related, sources of religion, faith and the sacred.
2. "Religion today allies itself with tele-technoscience, to which it reacts with all its forces" (Derrida: "Faith and Knowledge", p.46) Discuss.
3. "The god that is too human is, in fact, not even useful" (Ferraris). Discuss.
4. Discuss with reference to Vitiello ("Desert, Ethos, Abandonment") the relevance of the desert as a 'place of religion'.
5. Discuss Vattimo's claim that the problematic relation of philosophy and religious revelation is the Incarnation.

Section D: Pi321 History of Modern Philosophy II Weighting 1.

1. 'Let us then suppose the mind to be white paper void of all characters, without any ideas. How comes it to be furnished?' Outline Locke's attempt to answer this question.
2. Outline Locke's account of the relationship between ideas and words, and indicate what implications this account has for his theory of communication.
3. Outline Berkeley reason's for concluding that '*esse is percipi*'.

4. Give an account of Hume's epistemology under the following headings: (i) impressions and ideas, (ii) substance and self, (iii) the idea of necessary connection.

OR

'The Indian prince who refused to believe the first relations concerning the effects of frost reasoned justly.' Show how Hume arrived at this conclusion, and outline his main argument against the credibility of reported miracles.

5. Explain Kant's claim that the senses never enable us to know 'things in themselves', but only 'appearances'. Outline the considerations which lead him to this conclusion.