

National University of Ireland, Galway  
*Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh*

SUMMER EXAMINATIONS 1999/2000

**PHILOSOPHY**

**FIRST ARTS EXAMINATION**

Second Paper (Pi103/Pi104)

Professor B. Cullen  
Professor M.H. Woerner  
J. Mahon, M.A.  
Dr. F. O'Murchadha

Time allowed: Three hours

Answer four questions, two from each section. Use separate answer-books for each section.

**For Visiting Students only:** If taking one module only answer two questions.  
Time Allowed: One hour and a half.

**Section A: Pi103 Introduction to Metaphysics      Weighting 1.5**

1. "Philosophy is love of wisdom". Discuss with special reference to Plato's *Symposium*.
2. Wonder and doubt lie at the origins of metaphysics. Discuss how for Descartes the beginnings of his metaphysics are to be found in the mood of doubt. Contrast this briefly to Aristotle's account of wonder.
3. "The Myth of the Cave depicts a journey of truth and freedom". Discuss.
4. Discuss Plato's claim that knowledge is recollection.
5. Discuss the thesis that all knowledge aims towards the good.
6. Give an account of Aristotle's four causes. Add a note on Descartes' concept of cause.

**Section B: Pi104 Practical Ethics**

**Weighting 1.5**

1. Write a short introduction to that area of ethics known as *practical ethics*.
2. Write an essay on ethics and vivisection.
3. Write an essay on *one* of the following: (i) the main moral arguments *for* IVF; (ii) the main moral arguments *against* IVF; (iii) IVF in Ireland; (iv) feminist responses to the new reproductive technologies.
4. Explain the distinction between *reproductive cloning* and *therapeutic cloning*. Is either form of cloning morally defensible?
5. Write an essay on individualism, the social compact and the Celtic Tiger.
6. What does the Report, *Women and Crisis Pregnancy* (1998) tell us about Irish women's responses to crisis pregnancy?
7. Write an essay on one of the following: D. Marquis, (i) "Why Abortion is Immoral" (1989); (ii) W. Binchy, "Abortion and human rights" (1992).
8. Write an essay on one of the following: (i) J.J. Thomson, "A Defence of Abortion" (1971); (ii) F.M. Kamm, "A Basic Abortion Argument" in her *Creation and Abortion* (1992).
9. Which of the seven options identified in the *Green Paper on Abortion* (1999) should be pursued, and why?
10. Write an essay on the main moral arguments for euthanasia.
11. Write an essay on the main moral arguments against euthanasia.
12. Should euthanasia be legalised?.