

National University of Ireland, Galway  
Ollscoil na hEireann, Gaillimh

SUMMER EXAMINATIONS 2004/5

**PHILOSOPHY**

**THIRD ARTS EXAMINATION**

Professor W. Desmond  
Professor M.H. Woerner  
Mr. J. Mahon, M.A.

Time: 2 hours

**PI328      Marxism and Existentialism**

Write two essays, one on a topic from Section A and one on a topic from Section B.

**Section A**

1. Is Marxism dead, dying, or still a vibrant part of the human sciences?
2. Marx as a social historian.
3. "Despite the many criticisms levelled against it, Engels's *The Origin of the Family* deserves its status as a Marxist-feminist classic". Do you agree?
4. Were Marx's views on religion entirely negative?
5. The Marxist-Catholic dialogue of the 1960s.
6. How good a theory is Marx's theory of history?
7. Engels' contribution to the nineteenth-century debate about cities.
8. What, if anything, is distinctive about Marx's contribution to philosophical anthropology?
9. "The Marxist rejection of morality begins with Marx himself" Do you agree with Alan Wood?
10. The contribution of the Marxist classics to political philosophy.

## **Section B**

1. Is it possible to say, with some precision, what existentialism is?
2. Philosophy and politics in *The Outsider*
3. "What is the appropriate response to the absurd?" How does Camus answer this question in *The Myth of Sisyphus*?
4. Ethics in *The Plague*
5. Philosophy of religion in *The Plague*.
6. Albert Camus and the problem of political violence
7. Simone de Beauvoir's contribution to ethics in *The Ethics of Ambiguity*.
8. Simone de Beauvoir on the body.
9. Simone de Beauvoir on death.
10. Sartre's ethics.
11. Sartre on Marxism and Existentialism.