



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

BIS 2204: GENDER, PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Date: Tuesday, 10th March 2020

Time: 13:00 -15:00

Instructions

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. Answer **Question ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions.

QUESTION 1: COMPULSORY QUESTION (30 MARKS)

- a) What is the meaning of the terms *sex*, *gender* and *identity*? (6 marks)
- b) '*Gender is not a social construct.... It is actually personal and social androgyny that is a social construct, for it only exists within the rickety ideological scaffolding of gender studies theory....*'

What do you understand from the above statement by **Glen Stanton** in his article, *The Scientific Objectivity of Gender Difference*? Do you agree or disagree with the statement, and why? (6 marks)

- c) Comment on the different aspects of gender brought out in the following excerpt of an interview by British journalist Cathy Newman with Jordan B. Peterson, a University of Toronto clinical psychologist (9 marks)

Newman: *Is gender equality a myth?*

Peterson: *I don't know what you mean by the question. Men and women aren't the same. And they won't be the same. That doesn't mean that they can't be treated fairly.*

Newman: *Is gender equality desirable?*

Peterson: *If it means equality of outcome then it is almost certainly undesirable. That's already been demonstrated in Scandinavia. Men and women won't sort themselves into the same categories if you leave them to do it of their own accord. It's 20 to 1 female nurses to male, something like that. And approximately the same male engineers to female engineers. That's a consequence of the free choice of men and women in the societies that have gone farther than any other societies to make gender equality the purpose of the law. Those are ineradicable differences—you can eradicate them with tremendous social pressure, and tyranny, but if you leave men and women to make their own choices you will not get equal outcomes.*

Newman: *So you're saying that anyone who believes in equality, whether you call them feminists or whatever you want to call them, should basically give up because it ain't going to happen.*

Peterson: *Only if they're aiming at equality of outcome.*

Newman: *So you're saying give people equality of opportunity, that's fine.*

Peterson: *It's not only fine, it's eminently desirable for everyone, for individuals as well as societies.*

Newman: *But still women aren't going to make it. That's what you're really saying.*

- d) List three (3) manifestations of sex-based discrimination? (3 marks)
- e) Give three (3) examples of the role played by men in fostering gender equality in our present-day society? (6 marks)

QUESTION 2 (15 MARKS)

- a) Who is an intersex person? How do they differ from a transgender person? (3 marks)
- b) Outline and discuss four (4) instances that show the plight of intersex persons in our current society. (8 marks)
- c) What solutions have been proffered to help deal with the challenges faced by intersex persons? (Give a solution to at least two of the challenges mentioned in (b) above) (4 marks)

QUESTION 3 (15 MARKS)

- a) Explain the concept of *patriarchy* as commonly understood in contemporary society. How does this differ from the original meaning of patriarchy? (3 marks)
- b) Discuss some three (3) ways in which cultural patriarchy has manifested itself in the African context (6 marks)
- c) What suggestions can you offer to help curb the negative manifestations of cultural patriarchy mentioned in (b) above? (6 marks)

QUESTION 4 (15 MARKS)

- a) Name any 5 forms of feminism discussed in the Gender, Peace and Conflict Studies class (5 marks)
- a) Describe and provide a critique of the main issue in each of the forms of feminism mentioned above? (10 marks)

QUESTION 5 (15 MARKS)

Outline the gender-related *harms* and practical *solutions* under the following headings:

- b) Prostitution (5 marks)
- c) Pornography (5 marks)
- d) Abortion (5 marks)