



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
BDP 3101 & METAPHYSICS II**

DATE: 27th October, 2020

Time: 2.5 Hours

Instructions

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

QUESTION 1 (30 Marks)

1. In this course we have studied how several philosophers are against metaphysics. Therefore, briefly describe the main idea in the anti-metaphysicism of the following philosophers:
 - a. Auguste Comte. (5 marks)
 - b. Immanuel Kant. (5 marks)
 - c. Friedrich Nietzsche. (5 marks)
 - d. Henri Bergson. (5 marks)
 - e. John Paul Sartre. (5 marks)
 - f. Moritz Schlick. (5 marks)

QUESTION 2 (15 Marks)

- a. Remi Brague in “Anchors in the heavens” explains three practical ways that are evidence of the anti-humanism of the 20th Century. Briefly state these ways and explain how they are anti-humanist. (5 marks)
- b. What is Post-humanism, how is it anti-metaphysical and who are some of its proponents? (5 marks)
- c. What role does trans-humanism play in post-humanism? Illustrate your explanation with an example. (5 marks)

QUESTION 3 (15 Marks)

- a. Explain how nominalism is anti-metaphysical. (8 marks)
- b. Explain how Divine Command Theory, which was promoted by Nominalism, is anti-metaphysical specifically with respect to the relation to between nature and morality. (8 marks)

QUESTION 4 (15 Marks)

“In my 17th year, I was gripped by the misery of life, as Buddha had been in his youth when he saw sickness, old age, pain and death. The truth was that this world could not have been the work of an all loving Being, but rather that of a devil, who had brought creatures into existence in order to delight in their sufferings.” (Arthur Schopenhauer. 1788 -1860)

- a. What two remedies does Schopenhauer propose for the problem of suffering in humanity? (4 marks)
- b. How are these two remedies opposed to human nature in terms of human desires and the natural goods of man? (7 marks)
- c. Martin Heidegger said, “Man is a being meant for death.” Part of the misery of life is the possibility of failure or even death. How did Martin Heidegger confront this problem? (4 marks)