



**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
BDP 4105: PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE**

DATE: 24th October 2024

Time: 15:30-17:30

Instructions

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

Question ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 marks)

- a) What were some key contributions of ancient civilizations to the development of science? (3 marks)
- b) How did the scientific understanding in the Medieval period differ from that in the Renaissance? (3 marks)
- c) How do deductive reasoning methods differ from inductive reasoning methods in scientific research? (3 marks)
- d) What role did the Scientific Revolution play in the development of modern science? (3 marks)
- e) Can a scientific theory ever be proven true beyond doubt? Why or why not? (3 marks)
- f) In what ways is science related to philosophy? (3 marks)
- g) How can science and belief (reason and faith) coexist? (3 marks)
- h) What are some major scientific advancements that occurred during the Renaissance? (3 marks)
- i) Choose any two of the following philosophers of science and write what he is known for in the philosophy of science. (3 marks each)
 - i. Isaac Newton
 - ii. Karl Popper
 - iii. Vesalius
 - iv. Thomas Kuhn

ANSWER ANY TWO (EACH IS 15 MARKS)

Question 2: Analyze the scope and limitations of science in explaining natural phenomena.

Question 3: Suggest ways in which Philosophy is able to address the negative effects that Scientific advancements might have.

Question 4: Discuss the limitations of inductive reasoning in scientific research and suggest possible ways to overcome them.

Question 5: What is Francis Bacon's theory of induction, and how does it contribute to the scientific method? Would you recommend it? Why/Why not?

All the best!