



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
BDP 3201 HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY

Date: 5th March, 2024

Time: 15:30 – 17:30

Instructions

This examination consists of **NINE** questions.

Answer **All Questions** in SECTION ONE and any other **Three** questions in SECTION TWO.

SECTION ONE (Answer all questions)

1. Explain how Romanticism was a reaction to Enlightenment Rationalism though they had the same origin, supporting your explanation with a relevant example. (7.5 marks)
2. How did the mechanistic worldview of Enlightenment Rationalism result in Kant's Categorical Imperative? (7.5 marks)
3. After the Enlightenment, the basis for the dignity and the equality of the human person was drastically changed. Explain what the basis for human dignity and equality was before, and the basis for the variety of new forms that dignity and equality has taken. (7.5 marks)
4. Explain the contrast between the "culture of honour and shame," and the "culture of right and wrong" as opposing moralities in contemporary times, giving relevant examples of philosophies (or philosophers) that uphold the former. (7.5 marks)

SECTION TWO (Answer any three)

5. Define Moral Liberalism and explain any three of the principles for a correct moral liberalism. (10 marks)
6. Explain the principles of a correct Economic Liberalism and how they are challenged by Karl Marx's solution to the social question. (10 marks)

7. Explain the differences in the idea of God between the existentialist philosophies of Soren Kierkegaard and Arthur Schopenhauer, and how each falls short of the idea of a God of Reason. (10 marks)
8. State the three main values of Personalism, and explain how it is manifested in the Personalism of Martin Buber. (10 marks)
9. Explain the concept of alienation in Ludwig Feuerbach, how it occurs in Christianity, and what solution he proposes for man's emergence from its finitude. (10 marks)