



Strathmore
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION
BDP 3101 METAPHYSICS II

DATE: 28th October 2024

TIME: 08:00 – 10:00

Instructions

1. This examination consists of 9 questions.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in Section A (COMPULSORY) and any other **THREE** questions in Section B. (Total 60 marks)

SECTION A (30 marks)

1. Explain the meaning of the term “Analogy of Being” as used in Metaphysics, giving examples to support your answer. (5 marks)
2. Aristotle said that the end cause is the “first in intention and the last in execution.” Explain what this means and give an example of the same. (5 marks)
3. You are at an art gallery, looking at a painting of a magnificent lion that inspires awe in you. Someone comes to you and says, “That’s just a lion and nothing more. Your feelings of awe have nothing to do with it. They are merely subjective.” How would you argue against this, to prove that our subjective feelings are real? Is it valid to use those subjective feelings to validly judge the intention of the artist? (10 marks)
4. “What we learn from experience depends on the kind of metaphysics we bring to experience.” (C.S. Lewis, Miracles) Discuss how one’s metaphysics affects their anthropological and ethical outlook. Illustrate your answer with relevant examples from some of the philosophers we have covered in this course. (10 marks)

SECTION B (10 marks each. Do any three)

5. Explain how the Divine Command Theory arises from Nominalism, and how it is metaphysically opposed to Natural Law Theory. (10 marks)
6. Explain Kant's Noumenon-Phenomenon distinction and why he concludes that Metaphysics is not a valid science. (10 marks)
7. Briefly explain what Comte's Law of the Three Stages is, and elaborate how it is anti-metaphysical. How would you argue that the last stage is also laden with metaphysical ideas? (10 marks)
8. Explain what Nietzsche means by unmasking the metaphysical lie, and how it leads to the transvaluation of values. Would he espouse the idea of having standards and prototypes? (10 marks)
9.
 - a. What is trans-humanism, and how is it opposed to the idea of Human Nature? (5 marks)
 - b. Explain the concept of Post-humanism in its relation to anti-speciesism. (5 marks)