



Strathmore
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY
SPECIAL EXAMINATION
BDP 4101: READINGS OF CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHERS

Date: 30th May 2022

Time: 08:00 – 10:00

Instructions

This examination consists of six questions.

Answer **Question 1** (compulsory) worth 30 marks and **any other THREE** questions worth 10 marks each, to total 60 marks.

Question 1 (30 marks)

Briefly expound on the main themes covered in **any FIVE** of the following works that were studied during the course. (6 marks for each)

- a. Abraham and “Breaking Through the Universal,” from *Fear and Trembling* by Soren Kierkegaard.
- b. The Death of God and the Ascendancy of the Overman, from *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* by Friedrich Nietzsche.
- c. On the Alienation of Man, from *Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts* by Karl Marx.
- d. The Elan Vital, from *Creative Evolution* by Henri Bergson.
- e. The Fundamental Questions of Metaphysics, from *An Introduction to Metaphysics* by Martin Heidegger.
- f. The Meaning of Existentialism, from *Existentialism and Humanism* by Jean Paul Sartre.

g. Language as Language-Games, from *Philosophical Investigations* by Ludwig Wittgenstein.

Question 2 (10 marks)

Explain what Bergson means by Open Morality and Dynamic Religion.

Question 3 (10 marks)

Explain what Edmund Husserl means by Phenomenology and how it is opposed to a mechanistic worldview.

Question 4 (10 marks)

Explain what Martin Heidegger means by *Dasein*.

Question 5 (10 marks)

Briefly describe the three metamorphoses by Friedrich Nietzsche.

Question 6 (10 marks)

Briefly expound on the following three forms of alienation by Karl Marx: economic alienation, religious alienation and philosophical alienation.