



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES
MASTER OF ARTS IN DIPLOMACY, INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY
MDIS 8110: PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY (PHILOSOPHY OF MAN)
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

Date: 28th April 2023

Time: 18:00 – 20:30

Instructions:

Answer three questions, ALL questions in section I and two questions from section II

SECTION I ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. (30 Marks)

1.1.

The process of intellectual knowledge has three (3) distinct and inseparable moments:

i. Simple Apprehension, ii. Judgement, iii. Reasoning. Explain. (3x 2 =6 marks)

1.2

Intellectual knowledge has three characteristic properties: *immateriality*, *reflexivity*, and *spirituality*. What do these terms mean in philosophical anthropology? (3x2= 6 marks)

1.3.

Every existing living being has an inclination or a tendency to seek its own perfection or its plenitude. This tendency is what is known as an appetite, from the Latin term “appetere” which means to tend towards something.

a) Name two kinds of appetitive powers in human beings. (1 x2 = 2 marks)

b) The affective life manifests itself in two kinds of sensitive tendencies.

i. What is does affective life mean?

ii. Name and define the sensitive tendencies referred to here. (1.5 x 2= 3 marks)

1.4.

Human ‘bodyliness’ or corporeity is very different to that of animals. It is less specialized and configured to carry out non-organic functions.

Using any five faculties of the body show the veracity or falsehood of this statement.

(2 x5=10 marks)

1.5.

What is the difference between Philosophical Anthropology (aka Rational Psychology and Philosophical psychology) and Cultural Anthropology? (3 marks)

Section II: Answer two (2) questions from this section. The question should include either question 3 or 4).

Question 2. (15 marks)

Aristotle is said to have stated that "For living things to live is to be."

- i. Give three observable properties common to all material things both animate and inanimate objects. (3 marks)
- ii. List out five properties of living things that distinguish them from inanimate objects. (5 marks).
- iii. In a sentence explain the meaning of the following terms used in philosophical anthropology.
 - Intentionality
 - Abstraction
 - Immanence
 - Cognition

(7 marks)

Question 3. (Answer only one question here)

Either Question 3.1: (15 marks)

Unlike the animals, man is capable of determining his end and wanting it, thereby moving himself to obtain that goal moved by love. These capabilities are called intellect and will.

1. Explain to a friend of yours how we know that the human intellect is a superior mode of knowing than that of animals, even the higher animals like dogs, horses or Dolphins? (9 marks)

2. *Nothing is in the mind that has not passed through the senses.* What is the relation between the senses and intellectual knowledge? (6 marks)

OR Question 3.2. (15 marks)

The human body simultaneously shares in the subjective condition and the worldly objectivity (of the person). Through it, the subject is inserted in the world and submitted to its laws and external condition.

Boethius, a Roman thinker from the 5th-6th centuries, the first known person to define what is a person said: Person is “*an individual substance of a rational nature*”.

- a) Explain the three terms of the definition he uses. (6 marks)
- a) If the person is *inserted in the world and submitted to its laws*, on what basis can we also say that every person has intrinsic dignity, is ‘unique, and unrepeatable, these properties being the basis for human rights? (9 marks)

Question 4: (15 marks)

One of the key philosophical and anthropological issues is the question of freedom. Regarding it, one author asks: *Is (it) freedom just an eternal-godlike desire of man, an illusion, or is it real?* (Sokol 2004)

Another author makes the boast that,
Gentlemen, ... there is one case, one only, when man may purposely, consciously, desire...what is stupid, very stupid—simply in order to have the right to desire for himself even what is very stupid and not to be bound by an obligation to desire only what is reasonable.... This caprice of ours...preserves for us what is most precious and most important—that is, our personality, our individuality. Some, you see, maintain that this really is the most precious thing for man.... (Dostoevsky -1864)

In an essay of not less than one and half page, discuss Dostoevsky’s remarks, in an attempt to resolve Sokol’s predicament as to whether:

- a) Freedom is an eternal god-like desire of man, an illusion therefore, or its real.
- b) Make an appraisal of Dostoevsky regarding desiring and consciously doing what is stupid as freedom.
