

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:-

*B.A.*

**MES P111: Modern European Philosophy**

COURSE CODE : **MESTP111**

UNIT VALUE : **1.00**

DATE : **24-MAY-04**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 Hours**

## MESTP111 MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY

- Answer **THREE** questions.
  - Do **NOT** answer a question on the topic of your assessed course essay.
  - Do **NOT** draw substantially on the same material for more than one answer.
1. How did the scientific revolution change our conception of nature?
  2. Does Weber justify his view that the 'disenchantment' which afflicts modernity cannot be remedied?
  3. Is Descartes' method of clear and distinct ideas capable of leading to definite philosophical conclusions?
  4. Was Hume the only consistent empiricist?
  5. 'For all their achievements, the thinkers of the Enlightenment before Kant failed to arrive at a coherent and satisfactory view of morality and religion.' Do you agree?
  6. What, on Kant's account, fundamentally distinguishes his own epistemology and metaphysics from that of his predecessors?
  7. Does Kant's account of morality amount to 'an empty formalism'?
  8. Outline and evaluate Kant's view of religion AND/OR his view of history.
  9. Why did art gain a special importance in post-Kantian philosophy?
  10. What is Hegel's conception of the task of philosophy? How does it differ from Kant's AND/OR Schopenhauer's?
  11. Explain and evaluate Hegel's concept of ethical life (*Sittlichkeit*).
  12. How is Schopenhauer's estimate of the value of human existence related to his metaphysics?
  13. *Either* (a) What is Nietzsche's view of morality, and should we accept it?  
*Or* (b) Compare Nietzsche's genealogical method with the historical theories of his predecessors.
  14. In what sense, if any, is Nietzsche a relativist?

**TURN OVER**

15. 'Freud combines Nietzschean psychology with Schopenhauerian pessimism.' Discuss.
16. Why, on Heidegger's account, is the question of Being so important for a correct understanding of modernity?
17. How does Foucault's answer to the question, 'What is Enlightenment?', differ from Kant's? Which answer is more persuasive?
18. What is the aim of Habermas' discourse ethics? Does it improve on Kant's ethics?

**END OF PAPER**