

BA EXAMINATION

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHYOptional Subject (p): Marxism

Tuesday, May 20th, 2003, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm.

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Critically examine Marx's discussion of human rights in 'On The Jewish Question'.
2. EITHER (a) 'Marx maintains that under capitalism we suffer from alienated labour. But communism is no solution to this.' Discuss.
OR (b) What, for Marx, is the relation between private property and alienation?
3. How compelling is Marx's account of religious alienation?
4. Explain Marx's concepts of the concentration and centralization of capital. What use does he make of these ideas in his economic theory?
5. EITHER (a) Give an account of the 'transformation problem'. What is its significance for Marxian economics?
OR (b) What do you take to be the strongest objections to the labour theory of value?
6. Can Marx adequately explain the origin of profit under capitalism?
7. EITHER (a) How, according to Marx, will the transition to communism take place? How convincing is this account?
OR (b) What reason did Marx have for predicting that communism would eventually replace capitalism?
8. EITHER (a) What is functional explanation? Why has it been thought necessary to appeal to functional explanation in reconstructing historical materialism, and is this an adequate solution?
OR (b) What, for Marx, is the relation between base and superstructure?
9. Is it true that the productive forces have a tendency to develop?

10. Did Marx think that a communist society would be a just one?
11. Critically examine Marx's notion of the state.
12. Does Marx present a coherent account of the nature and function of ideology?

END OF PAPER