UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

088 0285

BA EXAMINATION 2002

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (u): Philosophy of Social Science

Thursday, 2 May 2002: 10.00 - 1.00

Answer <u>THREE</u> questions. Candidates taking optional paper (t) Philosophy of Psychology may <u>NOT</u> attempt question 12, marked with an asterisk. Avoid overlap in your answers.

- 1. Can Darwinist models of explanation be successfully applied to human behaviour?
- 2. Are there corporate individuals? If so, does this show that methodological individualism is false?
- 3. What is a social fact?
- 4. Explain and evaluate the thesis that social reality is constructed.
- 5. 'Methods of explanation in history bear no relation to methods of explanation in the natural sciences.' Discuss.
- 6. What is functionalism in social science? Is it defensible?
- 7. Can social science be value free? Should it be?
- 8. Are there universal principles of rationality?
- 9. 'Objectivity in anthropology is impossible. One cannot study a society without changing it.' Discuss.
- 10. Show how Popper's demarcation criterion applies to social science. What should we conclude from this?
- 11. Does geography raise any philosophical issues?
- *12. 'Psychoanalysis might help some people feel better, but it offers no guide to understanding the world.' Discuss.
- 13. Should social science inform social policy?