

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications :-

B.A. B.Sc. B.Sc. (Econ)

Philosophy B11: Political Philosophy

COURSE CODE : **PHILB011**

UNIT VALUE : **1.00**

DATE : **14-MAY-02**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 hours**

PHILOSOPHY B11: POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Answer THREE questions.

1. What objections does Nozick have to taxing the rich for the sake of supporting the poor?
2. Either
 - a) Can Nozick show how we can come to appropriate property that was previously unowned?Or
 - b) Critically assess Locke's justification for the appropriation of property.
3. What is a 'natural right'? Are there any?
4. What is Mill's 'liberty principle' (also known as the 'harm principle')? Can it be adequately defended?
5. Either
 - a) Does Mill give us any guidance on the question of whether a society ought to prohibit pornography?Or
 - b) Explain and assess Mill's arguments for freedom of speech.
6. What does Rawls mean by 'the original position'? What is its role in his argument?
7. 'A hypothetical contract is not worth the paper it is not written on.' Is this a damning critique of Rawls' method in *A Theory of Justice*?
8. Either
 - a) Would people in the original position give liberty lexical priority over economic advantage?Or
 - b) 'If people were to choose to equalise liberty in the original position then they would also choose to equalise the worth of liberty. Consequently they could not tolerate any inequality in material goods.' Discuss.
9. Does the argument for Rawls' Difference Principle presuppose that we do not deserve to benefit from our talents? Do we deserve to benefit from our talents?
10. Either
 - a) Expound and assess Plato's account of justice.Or
 - b) Can Plato be criticised for ignoring human rights?
11. Does Plato have a strong argument against democracy?

END OF PAPER