UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

Social and Political Philosophy PHL224/E

DEGREE SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

JANUARY

2019

Time: 3 hours
Subject: PHL 224/E
Marks: 100

This paper consists of 3 pages including the cover page

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INSTRUCTIONS

Please read carefully and write legibly. Please answer each SECTION on a new page.
SECTION A: Short Questions (28 marks)

1. What are the two main reasons that Rick Turner uses to explain the need for utopian thinking? Explain the arguments he uses to establish these reasons. (4 marks)
2. In what way is a social contract theory, a liberal theory? (3 marks)
3. What does Rawls mean by the idea of “maximin reasoning”? (3 marks)
4. Feminists argue that liberal social contract theories ignore the role of care in society. Explain why and how this is a critique of liberal social contract theories. (4 marks)
5. Do you think that society should be liberal or communitarian in nature? (5 marks)
6. Explain the difference between Menketi’s “radical communitarianism” and Gyekye’s “moderate communitarianism”. (4 marks)
7. Explain Etieyibio’s view of how Ubuntu should shape our response to Global Injustice. (5 marks)

SECTION B: Long Questions (32 marks)

Please answer each question on a new page. Your answer should be around ONE page.

1. Explain the differences between Hobbes’ and Rousseau’s idea of human nature, and their consequent different accounts of the state of nature and the social contract. (8 marks)

2. Mamdani argues that during colonialism, people were split into ‘natives’ and ‘nonnatives’. Why, on his view, was this done, and what is its lasting political significance? (8 marks)

3. To what extent do you think the concept of basic human rights is universal? Make reference to the debate about cultural relativism introduced by Donnelly and Cobbah (8 marks)

4. The three scholars we discussed (Wiredu, Eze, Matolono) all have different views about what would motivate citizens to participate in a political process to reach consensus. What are these views, and which do you find most convincing? (8 marks)
SECTION C: Essay 1 (20 marks)

Please answer on a new page. Your answer should be in essay format and between TWO and THREE pages.

Do you think that the Feminist/ Racial Liberalism critique of John Rawls’ Theory is successful? To answer you should 1) explain Rawls’ version of the social contract theory, 2) choose ONE of the two critiques to unpack in detail, 3) evaluate the critique.

SECTION D: Essay 2 (20 marks)

Please answer on a new page. Your answer should be in essay format and between TWO to THREE pages.

Should democracy in Africa be consensual? Answer this question with reference to the debate between Wiredu, Eze, and Matolino.