

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

**Classical Problems in Philosophy
PHL126F**

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER

2018

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Time: 3 Hours

Subject: PHL126F

Marks: 100

This paper consists of 3 pages including the cover page

Internal Examiners

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External Examiners

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer all questions.
2. Answer each SECTION on a NEW page.
3. It is in your best interest to write clearly and legibly

SECTION A: Short Questions (70 marks)

Intro & Methods (6 marks)

1. What two key questions that Philosophers in ancient times share with Philosophers today? (2 marks)
2. Explain, in your own words, the approach we will be taking in this class. (4 marks)

Ancient Egyptian Thinkers (18 marks)

3. In your own words, and in detail, describe the concept of Ma'at. (5 marks)
4. Read the following and answer the questions that follow.

Teachings of Ptahhotep:

And he spoke before his son,

'Do not be proud because you are wise!'

Consult with the ignorant as with the wise!

The limits of art are unattainable;

No artist is fully equipped with his mastery.

Perfect speech is more hidden than malachite,

Yet it is found with the maidservants at the millstones.

(Parkinson 1997, 251)

- a. What is the philosophical question that is being discussed here? (1 marks)
 - b. Explain the argument within the text. (3 marks)
 - c. Evaluate the argument. (1 mark)
5. Name THREE main features of Political authority according to Jeffers. (3 marks)
 6. Would you say that the eloquent peasant is conservative or revolutionary? Explain. (5 marks)

Ancient Greek Thinkers (40 marks)

7. What is the Socratic Method? (5 marks)
8. Explain what is meant by a universal definition. (3 marks)
9. According to Socrates, what is the relationship between virtue and wisdom? (5 marks)
10. Explain the consequence of the identification of virtue and knowledge. (4 marks)
11. Do you think Socrates should have resisted / appealed his death sentence? (3 marks)
12. What are the THREE concepts of knowledge that Socrates argues against, give brief explanations for each. (6 marks)
13. Explain in detail, Plato's theory of the state. (5 marks)
14. How does Aristotle explain metaphysics? (3 marks)
15. What are the four causes that Aristotle identifies? Explain with examples (6 marks)

Islamic Thinkers (6 marks)

16. Name two things for which Al-kindi is famous for. (2 marks)
17. What role did the Islamic scholars play in the preservation and interpretation of Greek scholarship? (4 marks)

SECTION B: Long Questions (30 marks)

18. Explain the difference between Plato and Aristotle's ideas about the essence of things (i.e. ideas and forms). (10 marks).
19. What are the three political philosophical principles that arise out of Ma'at from Anke Graness' view? Briefly explain and provide the link between them. (10 marks)
20. Explain in detail, Plato's allegory of the cave. (10 marks)