

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

Social and Political Philosophy PHL224/E

DEGREE EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER

2019

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

This paper consists of 3 pages including the cover page

Internal Examiners

Dr Christine Hobden

Dr Filip Maj

External Examiners

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read carefully and write legibly. Please answer ALL sections, and each section on a new page.

SECTION A: Short Questions (30 marks)

1. Rick Turner argues we need to challenge our 'common sense' thinking. What does he mean, and how would it help us to use political philosophy as a tool for resistance? (5 marks)
2. In what way is a social contract theory, a liberal theory? (3 marks)
3. What is the Original Position and what role does it play in Rawls' theory of justice? (5 marks)
4. Explain Mills' critique of Rawls that his Theory of Justice does not solve racial injustice (4 marks)
5. Some scholars argue that communitarianism can be oppressive to the individual. Do you agree? How might consensus democracy provide a solution to this challenge? (5 marks).
6. What does it mean to be a Cosmopolitan? How can *Ubuntu* be seen as a Cosmopolitan theory of global justice? (5 marks)
7. What one thing have you learnt in this course that you had not thought about before, and will affect the way you think about and practice your politics? (3 marks)

SECTION B: Long Questions (30 marks)

Answer TWO of the follow questions. Please answer each question on a new page and clearly indicate which question you are answering. Your answer should be around ONE page.

1. Explain the main disagreement between Hobbes and Rousseau with regards to their ideas of human nature, the state of nature, and the social contract. (15 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? (15 marks)
3. Do you think that our rights should be decided by our own community, through a process of consensus democracy, or that we should adhere to a universal declaration of human rights? Explain your reasoning. (15 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.

Critically discuss Rawls' liberal egalitarian theory of a just society.

SECTION D: Essay 2 (20 marks)

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

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