

**Uganda Martyrs University**

**Faculty of Business Administration and Management**

**Faculty of Agriculture**

**Final Assessment**

**Course: Introduction to Ethics**

**Year of Study: One – January Intake**

**Academic Year: 2021-2022; Semester I**

**Date: 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

**Time: 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Instructions**

- 1. Read through all questions BEFORE you make your choice.**
- 2. You must answer THREE QUESTIONS in all.**
- 3. There are two sections of the exam: choose two question from Section A. There is only one question in Section B, and it is compulsory.**
- 4. Please note that "bullet-style" writing will not be accepted. Endeavour to write connected sentences that are grammatically sound.**

**Section A (ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS OF YOUR CHOICE IN THIS SECTION)**

**Question 1 (30 marks)**

- a. Define "ethics" and "morality" and, using relevant examples, discuss the relationship between the two. **(10 marks)**
- b. As someone who has some knowledge of ethics, how would you determine that a moral agent is responsible for their acts? Give examples, where necessary. **(10 marks)**
- c. Does the study of ethics necessarily make a person ethical? Explain **(10 marks)**

**Question 2 (30 marks)**

- a. Explain with fitting examples the difference between a "directly voluntary act" and an "indirectly voluntary act." (7 marks)
- b. State the Principle of Double Effect and the Four Conditions under which it applies. (8 marks)
- c. **Case:** Frank Ozo is a young man on a boat one evening on Lake Kyoga. There are strong winds, and the boat seems to be failing to stay on course. He sees clearly that his boat is heading for a rock. He is afraid of the impact if the boat hits the rock. He decides to save himself before the impact by jumping into the lake. He tries to swim with his poor swimming skills but the waves are too strong for him. He begins to drown....

**Question:** Using the Principle of Double Effect, and its Conditions, which you have outlined above, make an evaluation of Ozo's action on the lake. (15 marks)

**Question 3 (30 marks)**

- a. Present a popular and technical/philosophical meaning of conscience. (7 marks)
- b. Name and explain at least four types of conscience. (8 marks)
- c. Cathy Charity a first year student at UMU pursuing a B.Sc in Information Technology. She got in a relationship with a male student at UMU and the relationship ended in a pregnancy. When Cathy goes home for first semester holidays, the parents, who are very religious and strict, notice the pregnancy. The Father, Michael, says to Cathy in front of all the family members: "Cathy, you have discredited and brought great shame to my family. My conscience about what you have done is very clear. You must leave my family. I do not want to see you anymore. Let your brothers and sisters learn that should they be responsible for anything similar, I will not tolerate them in my house."

**Question:** As someone with knowledge about conscience, what is your response to the reaction of Michael to his daughter's pregnancy? Make a good argument to support your response. (15 marks)



## **Section B (COMPULSORY)**

### **Question 4 (40 marks)**

Imagine that you are invigilating an ethics exam for third year students at Uganda Martyrs University. The exam is in the auditorium and the class is large – 120 students. As you move around during the exam, you notice a student who is using unauthorized material and is cheating. He successfully managed to hide his material at check-in and was able to bring it to the examination room, against examination rules. The student is not aware that you have seen that he has this material. Several other students have also seen that this student is using unauthorized material.

The examination regulation stipulates that anybody caught with unauthorized material in the exam is disqualified from the exam. Some thoughts run through your mind: to approach the student, take away the unauthorized material and disqualify him from the exam; or, to look away and let him do the exam and let him finish and graduate since this is his last paper at UMU before he graduates.

As someone who has studied ethics,

- a. Using deontological reasoning, what reasons would support the invigilator's first thought of disqualifying the student involved in cheating? **(8 marks)**
- b. What would be the consequences of the above decision on the concerned student? **(4 marks)**
- c. What lessons would the rest of the students in the examination learn from of the above decision? **(8 marks)**
- d. Using utilitarian thinking (consequentialism), what would be the advantages for the invigilator to take the second option of "looking away" and letting the student complete his examination? **(10 marks)**
- e. What lessons would students (who have seen that the student is cheating) learn from the invigilator's "looking away" in this case of using authorized material? **(10 marks)**