

Uganda Martyrs University
Faculty of Education

Course: Relationship between Religion and Science

Year of Study: 2

Academic Year 2022-2023

Date: 19th May 2023

Duration: 9.30 – 12.30 p.m.

Instructions

1. *Read through all questions carefully before making your choice.*
2. *Answer two (2) questions from Section A, and one (1) question from Section B. In all, answer three (3) questions.*
3. *Write complete and connected sentences in English. Bullet-style (outline) writing will not be marked!*

SECTION A: Answer Any Two Questions in this Section [60 marks]

Question 1 [30 marks]

Religion has been understood differently by different scholars.

- a. Define religion and discuss its importance according to any one of the following scholars: Emile Durkheim, Paul Tillich, Max Weber, F. H. Bradley. **(20 marks)**
- b. What does the understanding of religion according to the scholar you have chosen add to your knowledge of religion? **(10 marks)**

Question 2 [30 marks]

Today we live in a world dominated by science and its many innovations.

- a. Give a clear definition of science, briefly demonstrate its method, and show how it differs from superstition. **(15 marks)**
- b. Briefly explain what is meant by the "Scientific Revolution" and describe its key features. **(15 marks)**

Question 3 [30 marks]

Eras (periods) in history are generally named after the movements/trends of the time. Thus in the Christian tradition, we speak of the Patristic period, the Medieval Period, the Reformation Period, etc.

- a. Briefly describe the medieval worldview as summarized in the term “geocentrism”. (15 marks)
- b. How did Nicholaus Copernicus challenge the above view? Explain what he replaced “geocentrism” with. (15 marks)

SECTION B: Answer Any One Question in this Section

Question 4 [40 marks]

A misunderstanding of religion and science has often caused controversies and sometimes outright conflict. One such conflict between religion and science is the “creation-evolution” controversy.

- a. Within the context of the above, explain what is meant by “creation” or “creationism” and “evolution” or “evolutionism”. (10 marks)
- b. Briefly describe the “creation-evolution” controversy as a form of debate between religion and science. (15 marks)
- c. Discuss the key lessons that religion can draw from an understanding of evolution. (15 marks)

Question 5 [40 marks]

Those who see a conflict between religion and science are mistaken. Both religion and science are important for humanity, but they are different.

- a. Briefly describe the need and benefit of science to mankind. (12 marks)
- b. Present a reasonable defense of religion in human communities. (12 marks)
- c. Explain the “partnership” between religion and science and discuss areas of possible partnership between these two important forces in the world. (16 marks)