



PLS1501-Exam Oct Nov 2024

Western Philosophy (University of South Africa)



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October/November 2024

PLS1501

Introduction to Western Philosophy

100 Marks
Duration 3 Hours


First examiner: Dr. CS Westman
Mr. K Bopape
Second examiner: Prof. CD Scott

This paper consists of FOUR (4) pages.

Particular instructions for this examination question paper:

- i. This is a “take home”, **open book** examination. You have 3 hours to complete it.
- ii. Take note that this examination is **invigilated** using the **Invigilator App**. Please refer to P. 2 of this question paper.
- iii. Write your name, student number and the module code on your examination script. Also **number your answers correctly**.
- iv. You are allowed to access your prescribed works and the study material. You are however **not allowed to copy verbatim from your study material**. You should **provide answers in your own words**. All sources utilised in the construction of this essay must be **properly referenced** using the Harvard Method both within the text of the essay and included in a bibliography at the end of each essay. In the case of any cheating or plagiarism no mark will be allocated.
- v. You are **not allowed to submit answers that have been generated by an AI-generator** (eg. ChatGPT, etc). If your exam contains AI-generated answers, you will **receive 0 and be reported to the Exam Disciplinary Committee**.
- vi. The exam can be downloaded **on Friday, 1 November 2024 at 10:30** and **must be uploaded by 14:15 on Friday, 1 November 2024**. Should you complete your exam before the official completion time, please commence the uploading of your exam answer file immediately, do not wait for the session to conclude.
- vii. **The system will close at 14:15 on 1 November 2024** (South African time) and all late submissions will be rejected. **NO LATE EXAM ANSWER FILES WILL BE ACCEPTED**.
- viii. If possible, please **type** your examination.
- ix. The exam answer file must be uploaded as a PDF electronic document and not as a scanned image. Do not password-protect your PDF file or uploaded as “read only” file. Incorrect file format and uncollated answer scripts will not be considered.
- x. Your examination script should be **uploaded on the CHS myExams Tool** (<https://chs.myexams.unisa.ac.za/>) within the allocated time. Please submit only one version of your examination script and ensure that your examination script comprises of just one document.



	PLS1501
Date:	1 November 2024

INSTRUCTIONS ON THE DAY OF ASSESSMENT:

- Ensure you are connected to the internet in order to log into the Invigilator App and scan this QR code.
- If you encounter difficulty in scanning the QR code, you can alternatively enter the Exam Access Code below the QR code to start the invigilation.
- If you finish your assessment before the app timer has run out you need to press the 'Finish Assessment' button and follow instructions before you exit or minimise the app.
- Scan the QR code at the start time of the assessment, unless otherwise specified by your institution, note that you can only scan this QR code once.
- The Invigilator App may request you to take photos of your examination script after the assessment. Please follow the instructions on the app and take note that your academic institution may still require you to submit your script on the relevant portal.
- **The QR code is only scannable for a limited time and it should therefore be scanned as soon as possible after the assessment commencement time.**
- Keep the Invigilator App open on your smartphone for the full duration of the assessment. You are not allowed to minimise or leave the app during your assessment.
- You must adhere to the assessment time limit communicated to you by your institution. The timer displayed in the Invigilator may vary depending on the start time of invigilation.

YOUR EXAM QR CODE & EXAM ACCESS CODE



Exam Access Code: 4d846abc

FURTHER GUIDANCE

- If you only have one device you may access your assessment in the application by pressing the 'Access Browser' button in the top right corner of your app.
- Once the QR code is scanned, ensure your media volume is turned up and place your smartphone next to you.
- The Invigilator App will notify you with a notification beep when you are required to action a photo request, which you should then perform as soon as possible.
- We recommend that you keep your smartphone on charge for the duration of the assessment.
- Ensure you are connected to the internet when commencing invigilation. You also need to be connected to the internet at the end of the assessment in order to upload the app data.
- If your assessment has multiple online sections, tests or attempts, you should NOT finish the invigilation until your entire assessment has been completed.
- Should you encounter any technical difficulty, please WhatsApp The Invigilator Helpdesk on +27 (0)73 505 8273

Please ensure you adhere to the instructions on P. 1.

SECTION A: SHORT PARAGRAPH ANSWERS

Instructions:

- Answer **ALL THREE** questions in this Section.
 - Each description should not be more than **250 words** in length.
- a) The notion of “disordered love” is central to Augustine’s moral philosophy. What does the theory say and why does Augustine believe it is a problem? Do you agree with him? You must provide valid reasons to support your position.
- b) Briefly explain the meaning and significance of the following Platonic view: “the state is nothing more than the individual written in large letters.” You should demonstrate your understanding.
- c) Provide a brief explanation of the two types of friendship posited by Aristotle. Do you agree with his assertion that they can contribute to the development of a virtuous character? Support your argument with examples or reasoning.

[Section A Total: 3 questions x 15 marks = 45 marks]

SECTION B: LONG ESSAY QUESTION

Instructions:

- Select and **answer only ONE question** from this section.
 - In your answer, you are expected to demonstrate your understanding of the subject content and your ability to reflect critically on the question.
 - Indicate the length of your essay.
 - Your essay should **NOT exceed 1000 words**. Essays that exceed the prescribed length may not be marked.
- a) Provide a brief historical account of the practice and teaching of Western philosophy in South Africa. What are some of the historical challenges that philosophy in South Africa must address and why? (55)

- b) Select and discuss only two arguments for the existence of God by Thomas Aquinas that you think are the strongest and most convincing. Provide valid philosophical reasons to support your choice. (55)
- c) Compare and contrast the reactions of both Heraclitus and Parmenides to the views of the early Milesians. What does the debate among them teach us about the nature of philosophy? (55)

[Section 2 Total: 1 essay x 55 marks = [55 marks]

TOTAL: Section A [45 Marks] + Section B [55 Marks] = [100 Marks]

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