

PLS1501

October/November 2019

Introduction to Western Philosophy

Duration 2 Hours

100 Marks

EXAMINATION PANEL AS APPOINTED BY THE DEPARTMENT

Closed book examination

This examination question paper remains the property of the University of South Africa and may not be removed from the examination venue

EXAMINERS

FIRST: Mr N Dladla & Prof P Mungwini

SECOND: Mr PT Delport

This paper has two pages. Answer questions from both Section A and Section B.

Section A

Answer any Four Questions.

Provide a brief description and analysis of any FOUR from the following philosophical concepts. Each one carries 10 marks [Total 40]

- a) Classical philosophy
- b) Medieval philosophy
- c) Metaphysics
- d) Western philosophy
- e) Ethics
- f) Epistemology

Section B

Answer any TWO questions.

Long essay questions. Each question carries 30 marks [Total 60 marks]

- 1 "Milesian philosophy is the earliest attempt at providing a scientific view of the universe." Discuss
- 2 Provide an account of Plato's theory of knowledge and reality. Pay special attention to his theory of forms including the criticisms raised against it.
- 3 Do you think that Aquinas succeeded in proving the existence of God? Give reasons by referring to his five proofs for the existence of God and the various objections levelled against them.
- 4 Provide a brief historical account of the practice and teaching of philosophy in South Africa. What are some of the challenges that philosophy in South Africa must confront today?
- 5 Compare and contrast Plato and Aristotle's theories of ethics.