

For students on all programmes in the Department of Politics

Summer 2005

Answer FOUR of the following TWELVE questions. 3 hours

1. Assess the view that Burke opposed radicalism, not change.
2. Explain and evaluate Paine's hopes for 'revolutions by reason'.
3. 'Utilitarianism failed because it was too intellectual and too remote from ordinary life to be practicable.' Do you agree?
4. Outline and evaluate
EITHER a) Hegel's critique of liberal individualism
OR b) Tocqueville's fears concerning the survival of liberty in modern democracies.
5. How well did Mill defend liberty?
6. Evaluate the claim that the 'fundamental weakness of all liberalisms is that their claim to a universal authority rests on a parochial Eurocentric interpretation of history.'
7. 'Marxism denies that politics can properly be studied in isolation from the rest of society'. Explain and evaluate.
8. On what grounds did Lenin believe the state would wither away?
9. Evaluate the view that the history of social democratic thought consists of a steady drift away from Marxism and towards liberalism.
10. 'Conservatism is most clearly characterized by a pessimistic view of human nature.' Discuss.
11. 'Feminism provides a trenchant analysis of Western societies rather than a convincing theory for changing them.' Discuss.
12. 'Post-modernity is the cold reality after the fevered dream of Enlightenment.' Explain and assess.