RELIGION AND SOCIETY
Written examination

Tuesday 18 November 2008
Reading time: 11.45 am to 12.00 noon (15 minutes)
Writing time: 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Number of questions</th>
<th>Number of questions to be answered</th>
<th>Number of marks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>Total 100</td>
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• Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
• Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.
• No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied
• Question and answer book of 16 pages, including Assessment criteria on page 16.
• Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

Instructions
• Write your student number in the space provided above on this page.
• All written responses must be in English.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.
SECTION A – Short answer questions

Instructions for Section A
Answer all questions in the spaces provided.
Read all questions before commencing your responses.

Question 1
In contemporary society, when faced with major social and moral issues, religious traditions respond in many different ways. Identify three different ways that religious traditions respond.

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________________________________________________________________________

3 marks

Question 2
Why is continuity of core religious beliefs necessary for religious traditions?

________________________________________________________________________

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5 marks
Question 3

Answer both part a. and part b. of this question with no reference to specific individuals or groups.

a. Choose one of the life experiences above. Briefly state how the experience may positively affect the understanding of a core religious belief held by individuals or groups.

Life experience ____________________________________________

Related core religious belief ____________________________________________

Positive understanding ____________________________________________

________________________________________

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________________________________________

6 marks

b. Choose a different life experience from above. Briefly state how the experience may negatively affect the understanding of a core religious belief held by individuals or groups.

Life experience ____________________________________________

Related core religious belief ____________________________________________

Negative understanding ____________________________________________

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6 marks

Total 20 marks

END OF SECTION A

TURN OVER
SECTION B – Extended response questions

Instructions for Section B
Answer all questions in the spaces provided.
Read all parts of the question before commencing your response.

Question 1
Throughout their historical development religious traditions have faced a range of challenges.

a. List three challenges faced by a religious tradition during its historical development.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

3 marks

b. Choose one of the challenges you have listed in part a. and identify what aspect(s) of the religious tradition was challenged.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2 marks

c. Describe how the aspect(s) you identified in part b. was challenged.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

4 marks
d. **Summarise** the response of the religious tradition to the challenge you have described in **part c.**


e. Complete the following table in point form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outline the effects of the response of the religious tradition to the challenge</th>
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<td>Internally – within the selected religious tradition</td>
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*3 + 3 = 6 marks*
Question 2

a. Define the term ‘core religious belief’.

2 marks

b. Outline one core religious belief that has been sustained throughout the history of a religious tradition you have studied.

6 marks
c. **Explain how** factors, either internal or external to the religious tradition you have identified in **part b.**, have influenced the expression of a core religious belief of that tradition.
SECTION C – Essay and report questions

Instructions for Section C
Answer one of the following questions in the space provided.
You may write your response as either a report or an essay.

Question 1
Outline the beliefs of a religious tradition you have studied about a supreme being or ultimate reality and explain how these beliefs lead the religious tradition towards an understanding of
• the nature and purpose of human life
• the relationship between humanity and the rest of the world
• the way members of the tradition should lead their lives.

OR

Question 2
‘Religions do not stand alone in perfect isolation. Religions have absorbed and been transformed by different ideas and influences, though these have not been always welcomed or even acknowledged.’
Discuss this statement referring to a religious tradition(s) you have studied.

OR

Question 3
‘Life is one continuous hardship.’

‘The purpose of life is to experience happiness.’

‘The purpose of life is to live for others.’

‘Sometimes the end of life is what gives life purpose.’

‘Wherever life takes us there are always moments of wonder.’

With reference to one or more of the above statements, discuss how significant life experiences can impact on the understanding an individual or group has of the core religious beliefs in their religious tradition.
You may agree or disagree with the statements you have selected.

Total 40 marks
Either Question 1, Question 2 or Question 3
Extra space for responses

Clearly number all responses in this space.

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A script book is available from the supervisor if you need extra paper to complete your answer. Please ensure you write your student number in the space provided on the front cover of the script book. At the end of the examination, place the script book inside the front cover of this question and answer book.
Assessment criteria

The examination will address all of the criteria. All students will be examined against the following criteria.

1. Use of evidence to support arguments and conclusions.
2. Knowledge of core beliefs within one or more religious tradition/s.
3. Understanding of the interplay between religious beliefs and significant life experiences.
4. Analysis of continuity and maintenance of a core religious belief or beliefs within one or more religious traditions.
5. Analysis of the interplay between a tradition’s religious beliefs and vision for society in relation to one or more specific issues.
6. Evaluation of the ways one or more religious tradition/s have responded to a significant challenge.