RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Written examination

Monday 19 November 2012
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

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<td>C</td>
<td>3</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
- 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.
Question 1
What role can religious beliefs play in the human search for meaning?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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3 marks

Question 2
Briefly explain reaffirmation and reinterpretation as ways of maintaining continuity of religious beliefs.

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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4 marks
Question 3
Identify four ways in which religious traditions historically have been challenged internally or externally.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

4 marks

Question 4
How does being a part of a pluralist society challenge religious traditions?

4 marks
Question 5

Explain how particular aspects of religion enable religious traditions to maintain the continuity of their beliefs.

5 marks
SECTION B

Instructions for Section B
Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

Due to copyright restriction, this material is not supplied.

Source: www.childline.org.uk/play/getinvolved/pages/myidealsociety.aspx

Values: what is important, worthwhile, desirable, good, morally right

Question 1
a. What values of society are being expressed in the images within this picture?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3 marks
b. To what extent are the values stated in part a. consistent with the vision for society that is held by a religious tradition that you have studied?

6 marks

c. Explain how the vision for society of a religious tradition that you have studied has been challenged. Use one contemporary social or moral issue to support your answer.
d. How effective has the tradition been in responding to the challenge explained in your answer to part c., as viewed from either within the tradition or from the wider society?
Question 2

a. What is meant by the concept ‘system of belief’?

b. State one significant belief about Ultimate Reality from a religious tradition that you have studied.

c. Explain how the belief stated above in part b. relates to other beliefs about
   i. the nature and purpose of human life
ii. the relationship between Ultimate Reality and humanity

iii. the relationship between humans

iv. the relationship between human life and the rest of the natural world.

4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 16 marks
SECTION C – Essay

Instructions for Section C

Answer one of the following questions in the space provided.

Question 1

Consider the statements above, discuss the relationship between experience and religious beliefs. Use at least one example that you have studied to support your answer.

OR

Question 2

‘Over time, religious traditions have survived due to their ability to continually maintain their distinctive beliefs.’

To what extent is this statement true of a religious tradition that you have studied? In your response, show how various aspects of religion have been used to maintain the continuity of distinctive beliefs.

OR

Question 3

‘Historically, religious traditions and society have moved along parallel paths, side by side, each supporting the other. There were, however, times when these paths conflicted, causing one or both to change course.’

Discuss this statement in relation to a period of challenge in the history of a religious tradition that you have studied.

20 marks
Question 1 or 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.