## RELIGION AND SOCIETY

### Written examination

**Tuesday 16 November 2010**

Reading time: 3.00 pm to 3.15 pm (15 minutes)

Writing time: 3.15 pm to 5.15 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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 100

- 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 15.
- 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.

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SECTION A – Short answer questions

**Question 1**
Identify three types of responses that a religious tradition may use to respond to challenges.

i. 

ii. 

iii. 

3 marks

**Question 2**
Why do religious traditions seek to maintain continuity in their religious beliefs?

5 marks
**Question 3**
How are core religious beliefs, held by any individual or group, influenced by a significant life experience? Do not refer to specific individuals or groups in your response.

6 marks

**Question 4**
What is meant by the statement ‘Society and Religion have an interrelationship’?

6 marks
Total 20 marks
Question 1

a. What is the vision for human society according to a religious tradition you have studied?

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4 marks

b. How does this vision for human society relate to the beliefs of that religious tradition about ultimate reality?

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5 marks
c. What do these beliefs about ultimate reality and the vision for human society suggest for the way members of the religious tradition could lead their lives? You may refer briefly to a contemporary example.

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6 marks

d. Choose one aspect of religion, other than beliefs, and show how that aspect expresses the vision of the tradition for human society.

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5 marks
Question 2

a. Outline one core religious belief that has been maintained over time by a religious tradition you have studied.

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3 marks

b. Explain how this core religious belief is related to
   i. the understanding of an ultimate reality

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ii. the understanding of the nature and purpose of human life.

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3 + 3 = 6 marks
c. Why has this core religious belief been maintained throughout the history of the tradition?

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4 marks

d. Identify how the expression of this core religious belief has been subjected to change throughout the history of the tradition and explain why.

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7 marks
Total 40 marks
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

These days religions should keep their ideals and values to themselves.
But religions are part of society and therefore have much to contribute.

Demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of both these points of view about the role of religion in contemporary society, referring to a particular example(s) from a religious tradition you have studied.

OR

Question 2

Not all my beliefs can be changed.

In what way might this point of view relate to how an individual or group in a religious tradition you have studied reacts to significant life experiences?

OR

Question 3

Above all else, a religion is about its own self-defence.

To what extent is this point of view true of a historical challenge arising from either within or outside a religious tradition you have studied?

Total 40 marks
Either Question 1, Question 2 or Question 3
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.
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.