RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Written examination

Monday 14 November 2016

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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- 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 correction fluid/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.

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SECTION A

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

Question 1 (4 marks)
Outline two ways in which religious beliefs create meaning for believers.

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Question 2 (4 marks)
Outline two ways in which religious symbols relate to religious beliefs.

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Question 3 (4 marks)
Explain why adaptation to new circumstances might contribute to the maintenance of continuity of religious beliefs.

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Question 4 (4 marks)
Explain the relationship between significant life experiences and religious beliefs generally.

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SECTION A – continued
TURN OVER
Question 5 (4 marks)
Outline two reasons why a vision for society is important to religious traditions generally.
SECTION B

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

Question 1 (20 marks)
a. Explain two reasons for the maintenance of continuity of religious beliefs. 4 marks

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b. Define three of the following practices for maintaining continuity of religious beliefs:
   • new application
   • reaffirmation
   • reformulation
   • reinterpretation

   6 marks

   1. __________________________________________

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   2. __________________________________________

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   3. __________________________________________

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c. Explain how two aspects of religion, apart from beliefs, have been used to maintain the continuity of a particular religious belief in at least one religious tradition that you have studied. 10 marks

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Question 2 (20 marks)
a. Identify three different ways in which religious traditions generally respond to challenging contemporary issues.  

For parts b., c. and d. you must choose the same religious tradition.

b. Explain the vision for society of a religious tradition that you have studied.
c. Discuss the impact on the religious tradition of the responses it made to a contemporary issue. 6 marks

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d. Discuss the impact on the wider society of the responses made by the religious tradition to the contemporary issue used in part c. 4 marks

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SECTION C – Essay

Instructions for Section C
Answer one of the following questions in the space provided.

Question 1 (20 marks)
Discuss how beliefs about an ultimate reality influence understanding of self, of others and of the world, and explain how these beliefs about an ultimate reality find expression in the way people practise their religion. In your response, refer to at least one religious tradition that you have studied.

OR

Question 2 (20 marks)
Discuss how the religious beliefs of a particular individual or group influence their encounter with a significant life experience and how this significant life experience of the individual or group influences understanding of their religious beliefs. In your response, refer to at least one religious tradition that you have studied.

OR

Question 3 (20 marks)
Analyse the response by a religious tradition to a significant historical challenge and discuss the effect of this response on that religious tradition and on that religious tradition’s relationship with the wider society. In your response, refer to at least one religious tradition that you have studied.
Extra space for responses

Clearly number all responses in this space.
An answer 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 answer book. At the end of the examination, place the answer book inside the front cover of this question and answer book.