RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Written examination

Monday 20 November 2017
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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>Total 80</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 correction fluid/tape.
• No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied
• Question and answer book of 18 pages
• 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 (4 marks)

Using the beliefs of at least one religious tradition or denomination you have studied, reply to the request of the child in this cartoon.

“I understand how I was born; I want to know why.”

Question 2 (3 marks)
What makes a challenge significant for religious traditions or denominations?

Question 3 (5 marks)
Drawing on at least one religious tradition or denomination you have studied, explain how ‘places’ in the aspect ‘spaces, places, times and artifacts’ is intended to contribute to the search for meaning.
**Question 4** (6 marks)
Define the role of each of these three aspects of religion.

- Sacred stories

- Social structures

- Spiritual experiences
Question 5 (6 marks)
Explain why two aspects of religion have been involved in significant challenges to at least one religious tradition or denomination. Use examples from your studies to support your answer.
Question 6 (6 marks)

‘We know nothing about it all [God, the world]. All our knowledge is but the knowledge of schoolchildren. Possibly we shall know a little more than we do now.’

Source: Albert Einstein quoted in A Calaprice (ed.), The Ultimate Quotable Einstein, Princeton University Press, New Jersey, p. 344

In what ways can religion respond to this statement?
Question 1 (7 marks)

Discuss the relationship between the relevant beliefs of a religious tradition or denomination concerning ultimate reality and the meaning of suffering. Draw on relevant sources to support your answer.
Question 2 (8 marks)
Identify one religious tradition or denomination and one of its beliefs you have studied.

Religious tradition or denomination ____________________________________________________________

Belief ____________________________________________________________

Explain how the expression of this belief in rituals and in ethics is intended to foster meaning for members of this religious tradition or denomination.

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Question 3 (15 marks)
a. Briefly describe a significant life experience of an individual in one religious tradition or denomination you have studied. As part of your description, explain why the experience is significant. 3 marks

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b. Explain and contrast this individual’s religious beliefs and their understanding of these beliefs before and after the significant life experience described in part a. 8 marks

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c. Explain the influence of this individual's religious beliefs on their interpretation of the significant life experience described in part a. 4 marks
**Question 4** (10 marks)

‘Things may appear to change but, in reality, very little actually changes.’

Referring to one example of a challenge involving ethics and/or theology you have studied in detail, what evidence can you find that disagrees with or supports the statement above? Draw on relevant sources to support your answer.
Question 5 (10 marks)

Explain how at least one religious tradition or denomination you have studied has dealt with one or more challenges to its continued existence. Draw on relevant sources to support your answer.
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 an 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.