

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY  
JUNE 2012 EXAMINATION SESSIONS  
FDT3160 Christian Anthropology

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012

11.45 – 14.45

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Answer **ONE** question from **EACH** section  
Use a different script for each answer.

**SECTION A**

- 1 What is peculiar to the human being with respect to other created beings? Elaborate.
- 2 Christian anthropology in the context of "other" anthropologies. Discuss.
- 3 Original sin lies at the origin of evil in the world. Elaborate.

**SECTION B**

- 4 The theory that grace is admittedly necessary, but not ordinarily for the first steps towards the Christian life came as a reaction against certain anti-Pelagian writings of St Augustine in which he spoke in extreme terms of the corruption of human nature since the fall, and of the closed number of the elect, apparently preordained from eternity in view of original sin. Outline the main features of the controversy between Augustine and Pelagius that influenced the understanding of grace in those early centuries and determined the theology of grace for centuries to come.
- 5 “The word grace has the special connotation of everything that pertains to a gift of love; it is totally gratuitous or unmerited and undeserved” (Roger Haight). Write an essay on the understanding of grace from a Christian perspective in the context of the dynamics of human behaviour.
- 6 In his understanding of grace, Karl Rahner describes the *how* and *where* of the experience of grace concretely in terms of a person’s experience of his or her own spiritual transcendence. Human spirit is transcendence; it is a *capacity* for an active openness to the infinite and absolute. Explain this statement.

## SECTION C

7. Elaborate upon the more important pronouncements of the Magisterium on Christian eschatology after the Second Vatican Council.
8. "I believe in the resurrection of the body and in life everlasting". Highlight and explain the theological truths contained in these affirmations professed in the Creed.
9. Twentieth-century theologians belonging to different Christian ecclesial Traditions have often reflected on eschatology. Discuss.

10/20/20

10/20/20

- Eschatology

- Christian Eschatology

10/20/20  
Catholic - A. S. 20/20

10/20/20  
Protestant - A. S. 20/20

10/20/20