

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

MAY/JUNE 2007 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

HPA3300 St. Augustine: The City of God

Wed 30 May 2007

09.15 – 10.15

To answer ANY ONE QUESTION

1. "Augustine was aware that his friendly but critical discussion of Platonism (in book nine) would shock the contemporary enthusiasts who treated Plato as a sacred authority in whose writings nothing should ever be modified" (Chadwick Henry, *Augustine*, 1986, 105). Discuss.
2. Write an essay discussing some of the major differences that Augustine envisaged between the *city of men* on earth and the *City of God*, the heavenly Jerusalem.
3.
 - (i) When did Augustine compose *The City of God*?
 - (ii) To whom did Augustine dedicate the work, and why?
 - (iii) What is the division of the books of *The City of God* which Augustine himself suggested?
 - (iv) By which phrase did Augustine himself describe the work?
4. Discuss briefly the dominating *leit motif* of the Preface to *The City of God* in the light of its treatment by Saint Augustine of Hippo in the first ten books of the work.
5. Book 19 of *The City of God* is probably the most studied part of Augustine's work. Discuss and evaluate some aspects of the theme as developed by St Augustine in this book.