

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

MAY/JUNE 2009 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

PHI 1006 History of Philosophy:  
Modern and Contemporary

Wed 27 May 2009

5.30pm – 7.30pm

Answer TWO questions, ONE from EACH SECTION.

Section A: Modern Philosophy

1. Compare and contrast the views of Spinoza and Leibniz on substance.
2. 'Locke's contention that ideas are all we can directly perceive raises doubts not only about his claim that we can know that physical objects exist, but also about his distinction between primary and secondary qualities.' Discuss.
3. Discuss either (a) Berkeley's claim that *esse est percipi* (to be is to be perceived) or (b) Hume's views on the causal connection.

Section B: Contemporary Philosophy

4. What achievements – if any – would you attribute to existentialism?
5. 'The point of departure for critical theorists and hermeneutic philosophers conditions the substance of their philosophy'. Discuss.
6. 'Analytic philosophy takes language as its central concern.' Discuss, giving examples.