

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF ARTS



MAY/JUNE 2009 SESSION EXAMINATIONS

PHI 1006 History of Philosophy

Date: Monday 8th June 2009

Time: 9.15 – 11.15

Please remember to write your name and surname as well as the question number on each foolscap.

Answer one question from each section

Please use a separate foolscap for each answer.

Section A: Modern Philosophy

1. Trace the steps by which Descartes moves from a position of universal doubt to arrive at an indubitable starting-point for his philosophy.
2. Compare and contrast the views of Spinoza and Leibniz on substance.
3. 'The mind, in all its thoughts and reasonings, hath no other immediate object but its own ideas.' (Locke). How did Berkeley react to Locke's claim and what conclusions did he derive from it?

Section B: Contemporary Philosophy

4. "Contemporary German philosophy takes different approaches to what is considered the goal of philosophy". Discuss.
5. "Reactions in the history of philosophy tend to be overreactions." Discuss in relation to existentialism and structuralism.
6. "The linguistic turn in contemporary philosophy is particularly evident in analytic philosophy." Discuss.