

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**577 0080**

**MA Examination**  
for Internal Students

**PHILOSOPHY**

**Philosophy of Science**

Wednesday 21 May 2008: 2.30 – 5.30pm

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

1. Either (a) Can only scientific realism explain the predictive success of scientific theories?  
  
Or (b) Does the thesis that theories are underdetermined by data give us good grounds to reject scientific realism?
2. 'e confirms h iff  $P(h/e) > P(h)$ .' Discuss
3. "All observed emeralds have been grue. Therefore all emeralds are grue." What, if anything, is wrong with this example of inductive reasoning?
4. How do accidental generalizations differ from laws of nature?
5. What distinguishes science from pseudo-science?
6. Can causation be explained in terms of counterfactuals?
7. In what sense, if any, can the sciences be unified?
8. Either (a) "Whatever suffices for explanation suffices for prediction, and vice versa." Discuss.  
  
Or (b) "All scientific explanations appeal to laws." Discuss.
9. What is space-time?
10. Does a red herring confirm that all ravens are black?
11. Has Kuhn shown that paradigm shifts are essentially irrational?
12. Explain and assess the hypothetico-deductive account of theory confirmation.
13. Where does observation end and theory begin?

**END OF PAPER**