

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

577 0395

**MA Examination**  
for Internal Students

**PHILOSOPHY**

**Schopenhauer and Nietzsche**

Thursday 28 May 2009 : 10.00 – 1.00 pm

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions. Be sure to answer **AT LEAST ONE** question on **EACH** philosopher. Avoid overlap in your answers.

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1. How do we know the Will as thing-in-itself? Is Schopenhauer's account coherent?
2. Explain and discuss Schopenhauer's principal claims about free will.
3. How does Schopenhauer explain the possibility of compassion?
4. Discuss the roles of aesthetics and/or asceticism in Schopenhauer's theory.
5. Assess Schopenhauer's claim that nothing can be both object and subject.
6. Does Schopenhauer's metaphysics inevitably lead to pessimism?
7. What does Nietzsche mean when he says that *The Genealogy of Morals* is 'uncannier than anything else written so far'?
8. Is Nietzsche sceptical about the notion of truth?
9. What according to Nietzsche is the genesis of the guilty conscience?
10. What is the ascetic ideal and what is its function?
11. Does Nietzsche desire a return to what he calls 'master morality'?
12. Explain EITHER Nietzsche's doctrine of the will to power OR his perspectivism and discuss how fundamental it is to his thinking.
13. Discuss the notion of 'eternal recurrence' as it is presented in Nietzsche's *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*.
14. What are the similarities and differences between Schopenhauer's and Nietzsche's accounts of tragedy?
15. Nietzsche wrote that 'a psychologist without equal speaks from my writings'. What did he mean?

**END OF PAPER**