UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

MA PHILOSOPHY OLD REGULATIONS
for Internal Students

PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Monday, 10 September 2001 : 10.00 – 1.00

Answer THREE questions.

1. Does the process of conjecture and refutation show that science does not need induction?

2. Is there a satisfactory Bayesian account of non-deductive inference in science?

3. Is there a theory-observation dichotomy? Does it matter for scientific method?

4. What is a scientific explanation of a phenomenon?

5. Is inference to the best explanation acceptable in science?

6. Does the pessimistic meta-induction provide a refutation of scientific realism?

7. When, if ever, is it acceptable to choose one theory over an empirically equivalent rival?

8. What is a law of nature over and above a universal regularity?

9. Should non-physical sciences be in principle reducible to physics?

10. Are rival paradigms incommensurable in a way that makes paradigm-change irrational?

11. Should science dispense with method?

12. Is Darwinian theory empirically testable?

13. Does Quantum Mechanics defy a realist view of physics?

14. Does a feminist critique of science have significance for the epistemology of science?

15. Is there a satisfactory account of objective probability?

16. What is the best account of causation?

END OF PAPER