

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

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M.Phil. EXAMINATION

for Internal Students

PHILOSOPHY

Locke

Wednesday, 3 May 2006: 14.30 – 17.30

Candidates should answer **THREE** of the following **TWELVE** questions, avoiding overlap in their answers, also between papers.

1. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of Locke's theory of sensible qualities.
2. How successfully does Locke answer the question of why, if a unitary consciousness is what defines the boundary-conditions of a person, parts of the body which are not also parts of the seat of consciousness should nevertheless be regarded as parts of the person?
3. 'Locke's analysis of self-ownership is designed to defend a particular conception of property.' Discuss.
4. How is 'the power of a magistrate over a subject distinguished from that of a father over his children, a master over his servant, a husband over his wife, and a lord over his slave' in Locke's *Second Treatise of Government*?
5. How effective is Locke's attempt to reconcile conquest with his theory of political consent?
6. How do we know, according to Locke, that an action is right or wrong?
7. 'Of substance, we have no idea of what it is, but only a confused obscure one of what it does' (Locke, *Essay concerning Human Understanding*, 2.13.19). Is this an adequate account of substance?
8. Should nominal essences be defined in terms of real essences?
9. How far does a natural capacity to recognise the truth of a self-evident proposition differ from an innate knowledge of that proposition?
10. Was Locke a covert materialist?
11. 'It is as insignificant to ask, whether man's will be free, as to ask, whether his sleep be swift, or his virtue square' (Locke, *Essay concerning Human Understanding*, 2.21.14). Discuss.
12. Expound and assess Locke's arguments for religious toleration.

END OF PAPER