

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
MPHIL EXAMINATIONS 2001
for internal students

THE PHILOSOPHY OF NIETZSCHE

Tuesday 15th May 2001: 10:00 – 1:00

Candidates should answer THREE of the following questions. Please avoid overlap in your answers.

1. What does Nietzsche mean when he describes his manner of thinking as 'philosophising with a hammer'?
2. 'What it takes to be an artist is that one experiences what all non-artists call "form" as "content", as "the matter itself"'. How can form be experienced as content and what is the importance of this transformation?
3. Assess the significance of resentment in Nietzsche's account of morality.
4. What is genealogy? What are its gravest limitations as a philosophical method?
5. How does Nietzsche answer the question he poses in Beyond Good and Evil, 'Granted that we want the truth: why not the untruth?'?
6. What, if anything, of Nietzsche's interpretation of tragedy survives in the account of art that he gives in The Gay Science?
7. Explain and assess Nietzsche's attempt to understand the 'ground and character of all change' by appeal to the will to power.

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8. Assess the plausibility of Nietzsche's hypothesis about the origin of 'bad conscience'.
9. Does Nietzsche provide good reason for holding the experience of compassion in low esteem?
10. What does Nietzsche's immoralism consist in and how justified is it?
11. Explain and assess Nietzsche's doctrine of 'perspectivism'.

12. 'There are no mental causes at all' (Twilight of the Idols). What does Nietzsche's denial of mental causality amount to and is it correct?

END OF PAPER