PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS, PART II

Tuesday 07 June 2022          11am-4pm

Paper 4

EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY FROM KANT

Answer three questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

For each question do not write more than 2000 words.
1. How serious a problem does non-Euclidean geometry pose for Kant’s conception of space?

2. In what sense (if any) is the Metaphysical Deduction of the Categories a deduction?

3. EITHER (a): Did Kant succeed in answering Hume on personal identity?  
   OR (b): Did Kant succeed in answering Hume on cause and effect?

4. EITHER (a): In what sense, if any, can I know myself? Analyse and evaluate Kant’s answer.  
   OR (b): ‘To reconcile freedom and determinism we must reject transcendental realism.’ Do you agree?

5. EITHER (a): ‘[I]dealism … consists in nothing else than in recognising that the finite has no veritable being’ (HEGEL). Discuss.  
   OR (b): ‘[D]ialectic is the genuine nature that properly belongs to … things’ (HEGEL). Discuss.

6. Why does Hegel describe sense-certainty as both the ‘richest’ and the ‘poorest’ kind of knowledge? Is he right?

7. Must Hegelian recognition be reciprocal? Must it be egalitarian?

8. ‘Hegel is more interested in providing an account of the flourishing of communities than of the freedom of individuals.’ Discuss.

9. ‘The … drive which calls art into being to complete and perfect existence … thus … seduce[s] us into continuing to live’ (NIETZSCHE). Discuss.

10. ‘The “will to truth” must be kept strictly separate from the “will to power”, lest the latter pervert the former.’ How would Nietzsche respond?

11. If ‘slaves’ are as pathetic as Nietzsche depicts them to be, then how did it happen that slave morality triumphed over master morality?

12. Why does Nietzsche think we must ‘become’ who we ‘are’? Is this doctrine coherent?

END OF PAPER