

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

**9014 PHILOSOPHY 1A: INTRODUCTION TO METAPHYSICS 1997**

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

JUNE 1997

**TIME: TWO HOURS**

(In addition, candidates are allowed TEN minutes before the exam begins to read the paper)

**ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS,**

**ONE FROM SECTION ONE AND ONE FROM SECTION TWO**

*ANSWER EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE PAGE*

**SECTION ONE: PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION**

- 1 Evaluate the Cosmological Argument for the existence of God in both its first cause and contingency forms.
- 2 Critically examine the Argument from Design (Teleological Argument) for the existence of God, in either Paley's form or in terms of the apparent "fine tuning" of the universe for life, or both.
- 3 Does the existence of evil demonstrate that there cannot be an all-good and all-powerful God?
- 4 If this life is all there is, and if humans aren't placed here for a purpose, can human life still have meaning? Explain your answer.

**SECTION TWO: THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE**

- 5 Consider the merits of (general) relativism. Your answer should show a knowledge of Socrates' arguments on the matter. Is there any way in which relativism can be defended? Is (general) scepticism any better off?
- 6 What problem was Descartes trying to solve with the *cogito*? How successful was he in solving it? Critically evaluate his arguments.
- 7 Discuss the pros and cons of either scepticism about the external world, or Berkeley's denial of the external world. Can we be said to *know* the truth of the position you are discussing? Supply reasons for your view.