UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, APRIL/MAY 2009

TITLE OF PAPER

: CHRISTIAN ETHICS

COURSE CODE

: T2P2

TIME ALLOWED

: THREE (3) HOURS

MARKS

: 100

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. CHOOSE AND ANSWER ANY FOUR (4)

QUESTIONS.

2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.

3. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A FRESH

PAGE.

4. PARTS OF A QUESTION MAY BE

ANSWERED ON THE SAME PAGE,

ALLOWING FOR A SPACE OF THREE

LINES IN BETWEEN.

5. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR

CLARITY, ACCURACY AND GOOD

THEOLOGICAL INSIGHT.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION ONE

Discuss the major aspects of Ayn Rand's philosophy of objectivism. How does this philosophy differ from the traditional understanding of social responsibility?

[25]

QUESTION TWO

What is the relationship between conscience and reason? How do Christians use these two sources of guidance in making moral decisions?

[25]

QUESTION THREE

Briefly explain the following alternatives within Christian ethics:

- a. Situation ethics
- b. Evangelical ethics
- c. Theocentric ethics

Do these philosophies lead to the same conclusions about moral behaviour?

[25]

QUESTION FOUR

Critically examine the Judeo-Christian tradition in relational to environmental ethics.

[25]

QUESTION FIVE

"Absolute morals have no place in personal relationships."

With reference to Christianity and homosexuality, react to the above stimulus.

[25]

QUESTION SIX

Compare St Paul's approach to ethical issues with that of Jesus. Enrich your discussion with well thought-out Biblical references.

[25]

QUESTION SEVEN

What is the Just War theory? Demonstrate how either St Augustine or Thomas Aquinas justified the participation of Christians in war.

[25]

QUESTION EIGHT

If you were to write a law regulating abortion in Swaziland, what would it be? Clearly state the arguments would you offer in support of this law?

[25]

THE END