Information about the 2013 examination

The examination will be based on the Philosophy & Reason Senior External Syllabus 2004. It will consist of two papers. Each paper will have 10 minutes perusal/planning time and 3 hours working time.

**Paper One**

Paper One will consist of three parts:
- Part A: Deductive Logic — Propositional Logic
- Part B: Deductive Logic — Monadic and Dyadic Logic
- Part C: Critical Reasoning — Probability and Causation.

**Paper Two**

Paper Two will consist of two parts:
- Part A: Critical Reasoning (major inductive argument types; fallacies of reasoning)
- Part B: Philosophy.

**Information about Part B: Philosophy**

Candidates will be required to respond in essay form to two questions. Each essay should be approximately 600 words in length.

**Question 1** will be about ethics/moral philosophy. Candidates must be familiar with the principles of Kantian ethics and utilitarianism. Candidates **must** respond to Question 1, which will not be provided before the examination.

**Questions 2–5** will cover a range of Philosophy topics. Candidates must respond to one question. Questions 2–5 are attached to allow candidates to undertake research during the year and to plan their responses before the examination.

Material that is not relevant will not gain credit. Any examples or references used in responses must be of appropriate length.

Candidates are **not** permitted to bring notes into the examination room.

**Level of achievement**

Each candidate’s level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses across both Paper One and Paper Two.

**Enquiries**

Telephone (07) 3864 0211 or email externalexams@qsa.qld.edu.au.
Jo-Anne Cooper
Manager
Assessment Operations
Paper Two Part B

Question 2 — Philosophy of religion

Either

Outline one of the following arguments for the existence of the Christian god and explain its intrinsic concepts:

- Cosmological argument
- Teleological argument
- Ontological argument.

Analyse and evaluate the argument by discussing criticisms of the argument and any possible responses to these criticisms.

or

Outline the argument known as “The Problem of Evil” against the existence of the Christian god and explain its intrinsic concepts.

Analyse and evaluate the argument by discussing some of the typical philosophical responses and their effectiveness in resolving the problem.

Question 3 — Philosophy of science

Outline the traditional problem of induction and explain its intrinsic concepts. Analyse and evaluate the argument by discussing at least one well-known “solution” and commenting on the relevance of the problem to science.

Question 4 — Social and political philosophy

What does it mean to be free?

Compare and contrast the interpretation of the concept of freedom in two major political philosophies.

Question 5 — Philosophy of mind

Explain the main differences between dualist theories and materialist theories as responses to the mind–body problem. Name the individual theories included in your explanation.