

NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPOS Part III

Questions released at 12 noon on Monday 01 February 2010
Answers to be submitted by 12 noon on Monday 08 February 2010

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Before you begin read these instructions carefully:

*Students taking Natural Science Tripos Part III **History and Philosophy of Science** should answer **two** questions from the following list of eight questions.*

*The two essays should be submitted in duplicate to the Departmental Office by 12 noon on Monday 8th February 2010. Students are also required to upload their examinable work as a .doc or .rtf file to the **closed and confidential** HPS MPhil / Part III site on CamTools. The examiners may use this to check word count or derivative passages.*

*Essays should be marked 1, 2, 3, etc. according to the number of the question attempted. On the top of the first page of each essay include your name and college. The essays should be typed on only **one** side of the paper and each essay should be firmly stapled.*

When handing in your essays attach a completed coversheet to the bundle listing the number of each question attempted. It is essential that you write your name and essay number on the coversheet as well as on each essay.

NST Part III History and Philosophy of science

*Answer any **two** questions. Answers should not exceed 2,500 words.*

1. Was Darwin a Social Darwinist?
2. Do causes make their effects happen?
3. Is there any reason to think that explanatory power is a guide to truth?
4. Can radically different styles of inquiry coexist in science?
5. Is there such a thing as scientific progress?
6. How and to what extent have scientifically and/or medically untrained people shaped the history of modern pharmaceuticals?
7. What was more important in Early Modern experiment: instruments, individuals, or institutions?
8. How useful is Foucault's theory of disciplinary power for the history of the sciences?

END OF PAPER