UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

COURSE: Philosophy 1A

QUESTION PAPER: 1   **MARKS:**   100

SUBJECT CODE: 201PHL1AA1_FIL1A11

EXAMINERS:
              1. Dr Chad Harris
              2. Prof Benjamin Smart

MODERATOR:
              1. Ms Devon Bailey

SECTION A: Term 1 (Harris) 48 hour short argumentative essay

Instructions:

Read the article at the link below and answer the question that follows:

http://www.debatbond.nl/2015/04/22/the-strongest-argument-against-vegetarianism/

Question:

Write a short argumentative essay (min 750, max 1000 words) in which you:

1. extract the author's central argument against vegetarianism and put it into standard premise form, using your own words.

2. Critically evaluate this argument by explaining whether it is valid/invalid and sound/unsound. You need to give a detailed justification for your answer. If you think the argument is valid, explain what (deductive) validity is, how to test for it, and why this argument satisfies the requirement for validity. If you think it is not valid, explain why you feel this argument fails the test for validity.

3. Justify your answer in terms of soundness. Go through each premise and justify how it contributes to your verdict of sound or unsound.

In the article, the author considers potential responses to his argument. You may draw on these in your own essay, but you have to relate them to the tests for validity and soundness you mastered in term 1. You may also consult sources outside of the article to support your critical evaluation.

SECTION TOTAL: [50]

SECTION B: Term 2 (Smart) Exam Coursework Essay (1500 words max)

Answer **ONE** of the following three questions:

1. If determinism is true, is free will still possible? Give reasons for your answer, based on our readings.

2. Is prostitution morally permissible? Give reasons for your answer, based on our readings.

3. Does the Grandfather Paradox successfully prove the impossibility of time travel? Give reasons for your answer, based on our readings.

SECTION TOTAL: [50]

GRAND TOTAL: [100]