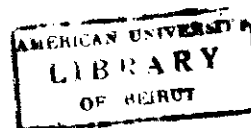
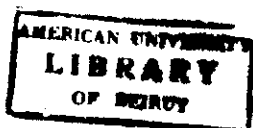




CVSP 206
Final Exam

June 2005
Prof. M. Amyuni

- I. Choose 5 of the following questions and write one paragraph (only) around these questions (60%)
1. In what way is Kant's moral philosophy still relevant, meaningful, to us to-day?
 2. What does it mean to be enlightened according to Kant? Are we enlightened to-day at AUB and in Beirut/Lebanon? Explain what you mean whether you think we are or we are not enlightened.
 3. We started our course by talking about the Scientific Revolution (16th and 17th centuries in Europe). State a few major elements that shaped up this Revolution.
 4. Descartes wondered "How do I Know"? and "How can I be certain about what I know"? Was he able to answer these basic questions and in what manner?
 5. How does John Locke solve the problem of the misuse of political power in his Second Treatise of Government?
 6. In what way did Adam Smith's economic liberalism aim at securing the basic rights of individuals in society? What are these basic rights according to Smith?
 7. What are these rights (see question number 6) according to Karl Marx? Which political system would preserve them?
 8. Faust signs the compact with Mephisto in Goethe's play and tells the devil:
If ever I lie down in sloth and base in action,
Then let that moment be my end.
Analyze it.



II. Essay Question . (40%)

III. Choose one of the following topics and write a short (about 2 pages) and clear essay.

1. Our lecture on De Beauvoir stated that The Second Sex is a quest for knowing one's self and the malaise experienced by the self and its relation to the other.
 - a) Analyze each component of this statement based on the text.
 - b) Does Simone de Beauvoir propose any solution to the malaise mentioned above?
 - c) State in your conclusion your own position regarding the problem raised by the above.

OR

2. Discuss the following excerpt from Season of Migration to the North. Underline its main ideas then link these to the main theme or themes of the novel.

The fact that they came to our land, I know not why, does that mean that we should poison our present and our future? Sooner or later they will leave our country, just as many people throughout history left many countries. The railways, ships, hospitals, factories and schools will be ours and we'll speak their language without either a sense of guilt or a sense of gratitude. Once again we shall as we were —ordinary people— and if we are lies we shall be lies of our own making.

