**ARRUPE COLLEGE**

Jesuit School of Philosophy and Humanities

**BA Honours in Philosophy**

**PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY APH 211**

**DECEMBER 2015**

**THREE (3) HOURS**

**ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

1. Describe Socrates’s view of the nature of the human person, and its implications for how a person should live, with reference to Plato’s dialogues, *Meno* and *Phaedo*. Give your own assessment of this view in the light of what this course termed the “Standard Anthropological Position”.
2. The Standard Anthropological Position describes human nature as “at once corporeal and spiritual”. Does this position differ in any important ways from Descartes’s dualism of body and mind? Give reasons for your answer.
3. “The *anthropological* question about the nature of human beings is inseparable from the *epistemological* question about the extent and possibility of human knowledge.” Discuss this claim with reference to Descartes, Locke, Hume and Kant.
4. Give an account of the theory of ‘natural selection’ as an explanation of the emergence of one species from another. What is its relevance to the “Standard Anthropological Position on human nature? Give reasons for your answer.
5. Can computers think – and might they be able to in the future? Describe the ‘Turing Test’ and what it is supposed to test, giving your assessment of what it can be expected to show, giving reasons for your answer.
6. Give an account of the contemporary Aristotelian argument for the existence of the ‘agent intellect’. What is your assessment of this argument? Give reasons for your answer.
7. Does the contemporary Aristotelian view of human being as both body and ‘agent intellect’ satisfy the requirement of the Standard Anthropological Position’s description of the human person as “at once corporeal and spiritual”? Give reasons for your answer.

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**