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**PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY**

**Bengaluru**

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| **Ph.D. Course Work End Term Examinations – JAN-FEB 2025** |
| **Date:** 31- 01- 2025 **Time:** 09:30 am – 12:30 pm |

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| **School:** SOE | **Program:** Ph.D. | |
| **Course Code:** ENG882 | **Course Name:** Introduction to Postsecular Studies | |
| **Semester**: | **Max Marks**: 100 | **Weightage** : 50% |

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| **CO - Levels** | **CO1** | **CO2** | **CO3** | **CO4** | **CO5** |
| **Marks** | **10** | **10** | **40** | **40** | **-** |

**Instructions:**

1. *Read all questions carefully and answer accordingly.*
2. *Do not write anything on the question paper other than roll number.*

**Part A**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Answer ALL the Questions. Each question carries 10 marks. 6Q x 10M=60Marks** | | | | |
| **1** | In *The Testaments*, Atwood reveals how Gilead’s leaders exploit religious doctrine to consolidate power. How does this manipulation of faith serve as a critique of the dangers of institutionalized religion in oppressive systems? | **10 Marks** | **L4** | **CO4** |
| **2** | Examine Cholmondeley’s *Red Pottage* through a postsecular lens, focusing on the portrayal of the New Woman and her significance within the novel. | **10 Marks** | **L4** | **CO4** |
| **3** | Explore the interplay between personal identity and societal judgment in Hillary Jordan’s *When She Woke*. How does Hannah Payne’s status as a "Chrome" influence her relationships, decisions, and sense of self? | **10 Marks** | **L4** | **CO3** |
| **4** | How does Hillary Jordan’s *When She Woke* portray the intersections of religion, law, and social order? In what ways does the novel’s theocratic society redefine concepts of justice, punishment, and moral responsibility? | **10 Marks** | **L4** | **CO2** |
| **5** | How does Talal Asad's critique of secularism in *Formations of the Secular* reshape our understanding of the historical and cultural entanglements between religion and modernity? | **10 Marks** | **L4** | **CO1** |
| **6** | Examine the role of individual and collective resistance in Margaret Atwood’s *The Testaments*. How do the intersecting efforts of the characters illuminate the mechanisms of power in Gilead and the strategies needed to challenge it? | **10 Marks** | **L4** | **CO3** |

**Part B**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Answer the Questions. Each question carries 20 marks 2Q x 20 = 40 Marks** | | | | | |
| **7.** |  | How does Marjane Satrapi’s *Persepolis* complicate the assumed relationship between secularism and women's rights? Discuss in detail, using specific examples from the text. | **20 Marks** | **L4** | **CO4** |
|  | | | | | |
| **8.** |  | In *The Testaments*, Atwood continues her exploration of the dystopian world of Gilead, focusing on the lives of women within this oppressive regime. Analyze the ways in which Atwood portrays the complexity of female agency and resistance. | **20 Marks** | **L4** | **CO3** |