

**SEMESTER TWO 2022-2023**

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

**IP20120 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: PERSPECTIVES AND DEBATES**

Time allowed: **2 HOURS**

**Answer TWO questions ONE question from EACH section**

**CALCULATORS ARE NOT PERMITTED**

STUDENTS MAY SUBMIT ANSWERS TO THIS PAPER IN EITHER WELSH OR ENGLISH

**Once seated, students may complete the front cover of the answer book(s) and the attendance slip ONLY.**

**DO NOT TURN THE EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER OVER UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.**

**Section 1**

1. ‘Anarchy is the basic concept of IR theory’. Compare and contrast the understandings of anarchy to be found in at least **two** different IR theories.
2. Why are some IR theories criticised for being ‘state-centric’ and how valid is this criticism in your view?
3. What are the key differences between ‘mainstream’ and ‘critical’ theories in IR and how helpful is this distinction?
4. ‘All theories have normative commitments.’ Discuss the meaning and validity of this claim in relation to the field of IR theory.
5. Which is the most appropriate concept for the study of international politics: system, society or empire?

**Section 2**

1. What kind of disagreements are there among scholars of IR regarding the nature and purpose of theorising?
2. On what grounds can one’s choice between the many different IR theories be justified?
3. What are the strengths and weaknesses of IR theories that stress the importance of economic factors?
4. Discuss an issue, event or process of contemporary international politics with reference to at least **two** theories. In what ways do the explanations or understandings provided by those theories differ or agree?
5. Is the field of IR theory adequate to international politics in the 21st century?

**END OF PAPER**