SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

MODULE CODE: SA3049

MODULE TITLE: Perception, Imagination, Communication

EXAM DURATION: 3 hours

EXAM INSTRUCTIONS: Candidates should answer THREE questions. Do not overlap your answers to different questions. Ethnographic examples should be used to illustrate all your answers.

PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER THIS EXAM PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.
1. What can anthropologists contribute to debates about bio-medical concepts such as placebo?

2. How could a focus on 'ontology' AND/OR 'activity space' improve anthropological understanding?

3. ‘Without a vision the people perish’ (from a Rasta reasoning). Explore this statement with reference to the anthropology of dreams and visions.

4. Intuition is a necessary aspect of meaningful human communication. Discuss.

5. ‘One wants something familiar to hold onto… as soon as we are shown something old in the new we are reassured’ (Nietzsche). Explore this statement anthropologically.

6. Debate the significance for anthropology of Marcel Mauss’ treatments of ‘body’ AND/OR ‘person’.

7. Discrimination is an inherent aspect of perception and evaluation. Discuss.

8. Does the practice of anthropology imply special perceptual or imaginative capacities?