

Philosophy 101 Final Exam Review Sheet

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The final exam is worth 40% of your grade. It will consist of three parts:

Definitions and matching. The questions in this section will resemble those in our earlier quizzes—matching words with definitions, true and false questions, and fill-in-the-blanks. Worth 20%.

Short answer questions. The questions in this section will resemble those on your first take-home test—short 100-150 word essays in answer to questions about particular arguments, concepts, and positions. You will be given a number of questions to choose from; you will need to answer four of them. Worth 40%.

Longer essay questions. The questions in this section will resemble those on your second take-home test—longer 300-500 word essays in answer to in-depth questions asking you to explain and evaluate an argument or position in detail. You will be given several questions to choose from; you will need to answer two of them. Worth 40%.

The exam is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, from 8 - 9:50am, in our regular classroom (Graham 342). **You must bring a blue book to the exam.** You can get two free blue books from Village Commons Bookstore. Bring two so that we have extras for those who forget.

What follows below is a list of the important things to know from the semester. When I say that you need to be able to “explain and evaluate” an argument or position, what I mean is that you need to be able to state clearly in your own words what it is, and then to offer some clear reasons for agreeing or disagreeing with it. Your ability to offer clear, thoughtful evaluations of arguments and positions will be an important part of your success on the final exam.

1 Arguments

- arguments, premises, conclusion
- valid, invalid, sound
- conditional, antecedent, consequent
- necessary condition, sufficient condition, biconditional, equivalence

2 Philosophy of Religion

2.1 The Cosmological Argument

You should be able to present and evaluate a valid cosmological argument for the existence of God. In addition, you should be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- Principle of Sufficient Reason
- necessary vs. contingent
- Taylor's definitions of "the World" and "God"
- complete vs. incomplete explanations

2.2 The Ontological Argument

You should be able to present and evaluate a valid ontological argument for the existence of God. In addition, you should be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- existence in reality vs. existence in the mind
- the greatest conceivable being
- Gaunilo's objection, the greatest conceivable island
- truth by definition
- Rowe's 'magican' example
- actual, possible, impossible

2.3 The Problem of Evil

You should be able to present and evaluate the argument from evil. In addition, you should be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- omniscient, omnipotent, morally perfect
- gratuitous vs. non-gratuitous evil
- theodicy
- moral vs. natural evils
- the Free Will Theodicy
- the Soul-Making Theodicy

2.4 Pascal's Wager

You should be able to explain Pascal's Wager in your own words. (You do **not** need to be able to present the argument in terms of calculations of expected utility.)

3 Free Will

3.1 Compatibilism

You should be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- free will, free action, free choice
- determinism
- The Could Principle
- The Principle of Alternative Possibilities
- Ayer's account of 'could'
- a Frankfurt Case

3.2 Incompatibilism

You should be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- untouchable facts, the Principle of Untouchable Facts
- the Consequence Argument
- libertarianism
- deterministic vs. indeterministic causation
- event-causal vs. agent-causal libertarianism
- hard determinism

4 Ethics

4.1 Utilitarianism

You should be able to explain and evaluate these theories:

- utilitarianism
- consequentialism; objective vs. subjective
- welfarism; standard vs. non-standard
- hedonism; quantitative vs. qualitative

You should also be able to explain and evaluate these objections to utilitarianism:

- the 'too permissive' objection
- the 'too demanding' objection

4.2 Singer

You should be able to present and evaluate Singer's argument that we have very demanding duties to the poor.

4.3 Norcross

You should be able to present and evaluate Norcross's argument that it is morally wrong to eat factory-farmed meat.

4.4 Egoism

You should be able to explain these terms and concepts, and be able to evaluate both ethical and psychological egoism:

- self-interest
- motivation
- psychological egoism vs. psychological altruism
- ethical egoism vs. ethical altruism
- instrumental vs. intrinsic value

4.5 The Divine Command Theory

You should be able to state clearly the Divine Command Theory. You should also be able to discuss the Euthyphro problem, and evaluate the prospects for the Divine Command Theory in light of the dilemma raised by the Euthyphro problem.

5 The Nature of Reality

5.1 Skeptical arguments

You should be able to explain these terms and concepts:

- skeptical argument
- skeptical hypothesis
- the Argument from Ignorance
- the scope of a skeptical hypothesis

5.2 The Problem of the External World

You should be able to state the Problem of the External World, and explain and evaluate these three responses to it:

- skepticism
- Moore's Proof
- the inference to the best explanation approach

In addition, you should be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- the Brain-In-A-Vat hypothesis
- the Evil Genius hypothesis
- the Argument from Illusion

5.3 The Nature of Reality

You should be able to explain and evaluate materialism and idealism. You should also be able to explain the following terms and concepts:

- bodies
- mind-independence
- the Problem of Unobserved Bodies
- the Problem of Real vs. Imaginary Bodies
- the Epistemological Argument for idealism
- the Conceivability Argument for idealism
- the Allegory of the Cave