



Summer 2014 examination

PH103 Mock Exam

Reason, Knowledge and Values

2013/2014 syllabus

Instructions to candidates

Time allowed: 2 hours

This paper contains **THREE sections**. The three sections are weighted equally. **Section A** consists of ten short-answer questions. Answer **ALL** of them. **Section B** consists of four essay questions from Weeks 1-7. Answer **ONE** of them. **Section C** consists of four essay questions from Weeks 8-14. Answer **ONE** of them.

Calculators are not allowed in this examination.

SECTION A-Short-Answer Questions: Answer ALL 10 questions from this section. All questions in this section are given equal weight. (Approx. 40min)

1. Camus “cannot conceive that a sceptical metaphysics can be joined to an ethics of renunciation.” What does he mean by this and why does he think so?
2. Wolf says that meaningful activity “occurs where subjective attraction meets objective attractiveness.” What does she mean?
3. Explain the paradox of omnipotence and its solution.
4. What is natural evil?
5. Define and explain the Extensional Equivalence Thesis.
6. How does the pessimistic meta-induction provide an argument against realism?
7. Give an example of underdetermination of theory by evidence.
8. Explain the difference between empiricism and rationalism.
9. Describe two different responses to Hume's problem of induction.
10. What is a hedged law?

SECTION B-Weeks 1-7 Essay Questions. Answer ONE question from this section. (Approx. 40min)

1. Is it possible for life to have a meaning?
2. What is the ‘argument from evil’? Is it convincing?
3. Does morality depend on religion? Why or why not?
4. Is morality relative to culture? Why or why not?

SECTION C-Weeks 8-14 Essay Questions. Answer ONE question from this section.

1. Is causal determinism compatible with freedom and moral responsibility? Why or why not?
2. Evaluate David Lewis’ definition of time travel.
3. Do Zeno’s Dichotomy and Arrow paradoxes establish that continuous motion is impossible?
4. Choose either the Thomson Lamp or the Ross Paradox; does this argument succeed in showing that supertasks are impossible?