

Philosophy 2300
Spring 2019
Study Guide for Exam 1

The first exam (in-class Friday, March 8th) will cover all of the material that we have discussed in class and in the assigned readings for the first eight weeks of the course. The test will have multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and longer essay questions. Please bring a blue book.

You should know the main theses and main arguments for those theses of each of the articles and book chapters we have read so far.

You should also know what each of the following terms means and how they are relevant to the class. This is not an exhaustive list.

Nussbaum – the difference between political equality and moral equality and the basis for this equality

Nozick – historical vs. end-state principles of justice, what the Wilt Chamberlain example is and what it is supposed to show, why taxation might be like forced labor

Locke – Locke’s arguments for freedom of religion

Mill – The harm principle, the argument for the harm principle, the value of liberty

Devlin – The purpose of the law, examples against the harm principle

Hobbes – what the state of nature is, what the state of nature would be like, authority of the sovereign, argument for following the law

Lyons – utilitarianism, the utilitarianism justification for social institutions, utilitarian argument for government’s coercive powers

Simmons – moral vs. conventional rights, rights-based justification of the state, social contract justification of the state

Plato – Socrates’ arguments for following the laws

King – King’s arguments for civil disobedience

Strawson – basic argument against moral responsibility

Ayer – compatibilism, meaning of ‘freedom to do otherwise’

Chisholm – libertarianism, immanent (agent) causation

Frankfurt – free act vs. free will vs. morally responsible (and how these can come apart in various ways)

Wolf – deep self view and its problems, sanity