

Philosophy 2300
Spring 2019
Study Guide for Exam 2 (final)

The final exam (in-class Friday, May 10th at 7:30am) will cover all of the material that we have discussed in class and in the assigned readings for the last seven weeks of the course (since Spring break). 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.

Personal Identity:

bodily continuity view, psychological continuity view, soul view
Dennett: how does Dennett's story put pressure on the view that a person is identical to their body? To their brain?
Swinburne: Substance dualism, Argument for the soul view
Mitchell-Yellin and Fischer: physicalism, are near-death experiences arguments against physicalism?

Consciousness:

Nagel: subjective experience and how it relates to physicalism
Chalmers: philosophical zombie
Churchland: argument from ignorance

Arguments for and against God's existence:

Aquinas: the five ways, cosmological arguments
Paley: the design argument
Sober: creationism and the theory of evolution
Antony: the logical problem of evil, the evidential problem of evil
Stump: Stump's defense of the existence of God in light of the problem of evil

Is it reasonable to believe without evidence?:

Pascal: Pascal's Wager, expected utility
Hajek: Worries about pascal's wager: many gods objection, problems with infinities
Clifford: Clifford's principle (the thesis of his paper), the argument for his principle
James: Genuine options
Plantinga: properly basic beliefs
Buchak: Buchak's definition of faith, argument that faith can be rational

The meaning of life:

Street: How and why the genealogy of a belief might be relevant to justification, how evolution relates to metaethics, mind-independence of values vs. mind-dependence
Wolf: the fulfillment view, the fitting fulfillment view
Sheffler: "the afterlife" and why it is relevant to meaning in life