

Final Exam

Due Date: Thursday, May 24th, 2018 (end-of-day)

The Purpose

- The purpose of the exam is to demonstrate comprehension of the course readings by comparing and contrasting different concepts and philosophical methods.

General Instructions

- Use standard formatting: Times New Roman, 12-point font, regular margin sizes.
- Upload one document (docx or pdf) to Canvas assignment “Final Exam.”
- Two essays. Each essay should be 700 – 1000 words

Two Short Essays	40 pts each x 2	= 80 pts
Total Value of Exam		= 80 pts

Citations

- **Each essay should include at least three important quotations.**
 - Quote = exact word-for-word re-typing of a portion of the course reading.
 - Important quote = a passage that directly relates/helps answer one of the listed questions.
 - Parenthetical citations = the name and page number provided in parentheses after a quote or paraphrase of the text.
 - There should be citations for every reference to a substantial point made by an author. But paraphrased citations by themselves do not count as one of the three minimum quotes.
 - In other words, your answer should not read as if it is just based off of your notes.
 - You may re-use up to 200 words from your previous writing assignments in this course in each of the exam essays.
- **Use standard MLA parenthetical citations**
 - whenever you quote the text or
 - whenever you paraphrase the text.
- Example MLA parenthetical citations
 - **“This is the quoted passage” (Author’s Last Name ##).**
 - “So what treatment do I deserve for being such a benefactor?” (Plato 33L).
 - Don’t use the editors’ names in your citations.
- No Works Cited Page
 - Because you should only be using readings covered in our course.
 - If there is an outside source that you think would benefit one of the answers, then ask me before writing the exam.
 - Otherwise, **outside sources are not permitted**.

Working with Others

- You’re encouraged to discuss the exam with classmates before you have begun writing.
- Once you begin writing your exam, do not discuss the exam with anyone else, though you may ask/email questions to me. I will provide feedback and address any major confusions (even if I won’t provide answers).

Essay Questions and Instructions

- Answer two (2) of the following problems.
- Each essay should be 700-1,000 words.
- Number each essay, but do not waste space retyping the question.
- The problems are outlined in bullet points, but ***your answers should be in essay form.***

Problem 1) Frankfurt (pp. 440-50) and Wolf on moral responsibility

- Compare Frankfurt's and Wolf's accounts of moral responsibility.
- Apply each account to a borderline case of moral responsibility.
 - Consider using one of the examples from the readings, such as:
 - Frankfurt's examples of different forms of addiction,
 - Wolf's JoJo example, or
 - the case of Kevin listed in Discussion Post 3.
 - Make sure to explain in detail how each account would assess the example.
- Which account do you find stronger? Why?

[If you do Problem 1, address all bullet points in whatever order you choose and in essay form.]

Problem 2) Aristotle and Kant

- According to Aristotle, what is the highest ethical goal? And what are the most important requirements for achieving this goal?
- Explain Kant's view on the relationship between happiness and morality.
- Compare Aristotle's and Kant's arguments. Which do you find more persuasive and why?

[If you do Problem 2, address all bullet points in whatever order you choose and in essay form.]

Problem 3) Harding and Parfit or Velleman

- Explain either Parfit or Velleman's account of personal identity.
 - What ethical importance does the account have for either Parfit or Velleman?
- Explain Harding's concept of strong objectivity.
 - What ethical importance does strong objectivity have for Harding?
- Compare the two accounts: is Parfit's or Velleman's account of personal identity compatible with Harding's understanding of social identity. Why or why not?
 - Do you find either account persuasive? Why or why not?

[If you do Problem 2, address all bullet points in whatever order you choose and in essay form.]

Problem 4) Appiah and Alcoff

- According to Appiah, what is intrinsic racism?
 - Why does Appiah believe that intrinsic racism is morally problematic?
- According to Alcoff, what is wrong/problematic with the goal of color blindness?
- Compare and contrast Appiah's and Alcoff's understanding of racial identity.
 - What hope does each philosopher have for the future of racial identity?
- Which argument do you find more persuasive and why?

Exam Checklist

General Format

- Have you written two separate essays?
- Are both essays in the same file?
- Is each essay 700 – 1000 words in length?
- Are you using a 12-point font?
 - If you're kind, you will use Times New Roman.
- Are both essays numbered (matching the problem numbers listed above)?

Exam Content

- Did you address all of the bullet points listed for each problem?
- Do you have at least three important quotes in each of your essays?
 - Quote = exact word-for-word re-typing of a passage from the text that is placed within quotation marks (“ ... ”).
 - Important quote = a passage that helps you answer one of the bullet points listed in a problem.
- Are you using MLA citation format?
 - MLA citation format = philosophers last name and page number in parentheses after quote.
 - Example MLA citation: “So what treatment do I deserve for being such a benefactor?” (Plato 33L).
 - Are the page numbers the same as the course textbook or PDF?
 - If you are using an older edition of the course textbook, have you noted this at the top of your exam?