

Review Sheet for Final Examination

The purpose of this sheet is to provide you with a guide to help you prepare for the final exam. Remember that in studying the positions of a philosopher, you must be concerned with the particular claims of the philosopher, the reasons which are offered to support the claim, and the definitions of critical terms provided by the philosopher.

The exam is worth 130 points. It will have the same format as the April exam but have two additional short answer questions and one extra essay question (4 instead of 3). The exam should take about 75 minutes, but you will have the entire final exam period for it if you need it. The exam will be comprehensive for the material covered in class since March 17. Probably about 60-70 percent will be on material covered since the April exam, with the balance for review. Please remember that some of the short answer questions will likely be drawn from the solely from the readings.

The readings for the final exam include all the material indicated on the syllabus except for the article on rights by Ozar.

You can refer to the review sheet for the material covered prior to the April 9 exam:

- I) For the material related to the article by Jones on *Liberation Strategies in Black Theology*, you should be able to:
 - 1) set forth the respective views of Mao-Tse-Tung, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X on the moral use of violence to end oppression. So, you should be able to define/characterize various formulas as “never the gun” (MLK), “only the gun” (MST), “ballot or the bullet” (MX). “dirty activism” (MST), “all means necessary” (MX), etc. You should be able carefully to explain why each person held his respective position on this matter, including being able to distinguish between historical evidence and philosophical or other sorts of evidence.
 - 2) You should be able to discuss these positions as illustrative or absolute and/or contextual approaches to moral reasoning.
- II) For the material relating to virtue ethics: you should be able to
 - 1) define: end, final end, happiness, human nature, virtue, theoretical reason, practical reason, mean of action;
 - 2) discuss why Aristotle regards happiness as the final end of human activity and why he defines it as virtuous activity in conformity with reason;
 - 3) set forth the formal characteristics of happiness (living well), e.g., self-sufficiency, final end, etc,

and show how Aristotle employs these criteria to eliminate certain contenders for constituting happiness (e.g., wealth and pleasure).

- 4) discuss Aristotle's conception of virtue as the mean of action between the extremes of excess and deficiency;
- 5) discuss Aristotle's basic question for ethics (why kind of person should we become to be happy) with the basic question in consequentialist and deontological ethical theories (what sorts of actions should we perform.)

III) For the material relating to Aquinas's conception of natural law, you should be able to:

- 1) define and distinguish between: eternal law, natural law, human law, and divine law.
- 2) discuss the relation of these laws to moral reasoning;
- 3) define and discuss the role of reason, will, emotion, and habit in moral life

IV) For the material related to "rights", you should be able to define and distinguish between the various kinds of rights: natural positive, natural negative, conventional positive, and conventional negative. You should also be able to give examples of each of these kinds of rights. You should also be able to discuss the general nature of a right and the relation between rights and duties.