

Midterm Review Sheet

Key concepts

You must be able to define and employ correctly the following key concepts.

validity

soundness

modus ponens

modus tollens

reductio ad absurdum

natural theology

deductive argument

risky argument

argument by analogy

argument to best explanation

conditional statements

theodicy vs. defense

Manichaenism

Greater Goods Defense

Easy Goals Thesis

Clifford's Dictum

substance vs. attribute

abstract vs. concrete

Leibniz's Law

Lockean definition of person

Cartesian Dualism

Union Dualism

materialism

Animalism

Constitutionalism

Nihilism

Composition Question

The Sorites Paradox

paradox of increase

The Ship of Theseus

Deon and Theon

The Pairing Principle

Possible long-answer questions

You will be asked to answer **one** of the following long-answer questions. Think of these as paper assignments. You are allowed to draft responses to them in advance; however, you cannot use anything you prepare beforehand in drafting the answers during the midterm exam itself.

1. The Thinking Animal Argument is an argument for a particular materialist view of what you and I are, namely, *animalism*. What is the Thinking Animal Argument? How might either a Substance Dualist or a Constitutionalist (pick one) respond to the argument? How plausible is their response? Make sure to justify your evaluation of either the Substance Dualist's or Constitutionalist's response.
2. Peter Unger argues that he doesn't exist, and that, by extension, neither do you, I, or anyone else. What is his argument for this startling claim? How would you respond to the argument? Make sure to justify your response.
3. Descartes gives us the so-called Indivisibility Argument for Cartesian Dualism. How does the argument go, exactly? What possible criticisms of the argument are there? Which one strikes you as most plausible? How might Descartes answer your criticism?