

ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY EXAM READING LIST

1. PLATO

Complete Dialogues, selected passages:

Republic

Symposium 201D-212C (Diotima)

Meno

Phaedrus 244A-257B (Charioteer)

Phaedo

Parmenides 126A-135D (Critique)

Topics

Ethics: The structure of the soul. Reason, desire and virtue. Happiness, virtue and the critique of pleasure. The philosophical life versus other ways of life.

Epistemology: Recollection and the paradox of learning. Hypothesis, dialectic and first principles. Knowledge versus belief.

Metaphysics: Forms and the explanation of change. Participation of particulars in forms. The *Parmenides* critique of participation.

2. ARISTOTLE

Nicomachean Ethics 1.1-3.5; 6; 10

Metaphysics 1; 7.1-8, 17; 8.1-2, 6; 9.6-8; 12.6-10

De Anima 2.1-3.8 *Physics* 1.1-3.3

Topics

Ethics: Happiness as the final good. Reason, desire, and virtue. Pleasure and activity.

Epistemology: Sense perception as a model of cognition. The mind's grasp of form.

Metaphysics: The four causes. Form and matter as principles of substance. The ontology of the soul. Actuality, potentiality and the prime mover.

3. HELLENISTIC

Epicureanism: Cicero, *De Finibus* 1-2, in Long and Sedley, *The Hellenistic Philosophers*, vol. 1, pp. 78-90, sections 16-17 (includes commentary)

Stoicism: Cicero, *De Finibus* 3-4 Long and Sedley, pp. 236-259, sections 39-41 (includes commentary)

Academic Skepticism: Long and Sedley, pp. 438-67, sections 68-70 (includes commentary)

Plotinus *Enneads* 5.1.1-12 (The one as principle)

SUGGESTED SECONDARY READINGS

For the student looking for a straightforward account of the main figures and topics, with helpful extracts of primary texts integrated into the exposition, we can recommend James N. Jordan, *Western Philosophy: From Antiquity to the Middle Ages* (New York 1987)

For Plato, two short useful general treatments are A.E. Taylor, *Plato* (New York, n.d.) and R. M. Hare, *Plato* (New York 1982); the essays in Richard Kraut, ed *The Cambridge Companion to Plato* (New York 1992) are also useful to the nonspecialist.

For Aristotle, a recent short general treatment is Jonathan Barnes, *Aristotle* (New York 1982); a better, more philosophically challenging treatment is Jonathan Lear, *Aristotle: The Desire to Understand* (New York 1988); a solid, classic student text is W.D. Ross, *Aristotle* (many editions, most recently New York 1995); the essays in Jonathan Barnes, *The Cambridge Companion to Aristotle* (New York 1995) are also useful to the nonspecialist.

For Epicureanism, Stoicism and Skepticism, Long and Sedley's commentary is the most convenient source, and Jordan's treatment of Plotinus is helpful.

MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY EXAM READING LIST

Texts:

Arthur Hyman and James J. Walsh (eds.), *Philosophy in the Middle Ages*, 2nd ed., Hackett, 1983.

Paul Spade (ed.), *Five Texts on The Mediaeval Problem of Universals*, Hackett, 1994.

Readings:

Augustine (354-430)

Problem of Evil and Existence of God:

- *De libero arbitrio (On Free Choice)* I-III.3 and *Retractationes (Reconsiderations)*, in Augustine, *On Free Choice of the Will*, trans. Thomas Williams, Indianapolis: Hackett, 1993, pp. 1-78, 124-29.

Theory of Knowledge and Theory of Language:

- *De magistro*, in *Against the Academics* and *The Teacher*, trans. Peter King (Hackett, 1995).

Divine ideas:

- *De diversis quaestionibus 83 (Eighty-three Different Questions)*, Q. 46, in *The Essential Augustine*, ed. Vernon Burke (Hackett, 1974), pp. 62-63.

Moral Theory (The Ultimate End):

- *De civitate Dei (The City of God)*, Book XIX.

Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109)

Natural Theology:

- *Prosologion* 1-4, *Pro insipiente (On Behalf of the Fool)*, and *Quid ad haec respondeat editor (Reply of the Author to Gaunilo)*, in Hyman and Walsh, pp. 149-63.

Peter Abelard (1079-1142)

Universals and Particulars:

- *Logica Ingredientibus (Logic for Beginners)*, *The Glosses on Porphyry's Isagoge*, in Spade, pp. 22-56.

Islamic and Jewish Philosophy

Philosophy of Mind:

- AVERROES (1126-1198) *Commentarium magnum in Aristotelis De anima libros (The Long Commentary on Aristotle's De anima)* III, comments 4 and 5, in Hyman and Walsh, pp. 324-334.

Metaphysics

Natural Theology:

- AVICENNA (980-1037), *The Metaphysics of the Healing*, trans. Michael E. Marmura, Provo, UT: Brigham Young, 2005:
 - Book I, Chapter 5, pp. 22-29 [Primary concepts and existence/essence]
 - Book I, Chapter 6, pp. 29-34. [Necessary being]
 - Book VI, Chapters 1-2, pp. 194-205 [Causality]
 - Book VIII, Chapter 1, pp. 257-62 [Proof of a first efficient cause.]
- MOSES MAIMONIDES (1135-1204), *The Guide of the Perplexed*, Book I, chapters 51-53 and 58-60, in Hyman and Walsh, pp. 373-390.

Creation:

- AL-GHAZALI (1058-1111), *The Incoherence of the Philosophers*, Problem 17, in Hyman and Walsh, pp. 283-291.
- MOSES MAIMONIDES, *The Guide of the Perplexed*, Book II, chapters 13, 16, and 23-25, in Hyman and Walsh, pp. 390-401.

Bonaventure (1221-1274)

Theory of Knowledge:

- *Disputed Questions on the Knowledge of Christ*, q. 4, in Fairweather, Eugene (ed). *A Scholastic Miscellany: Anselm to Ockham*. The Library of Christian Classics, V. 10. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1956, pp. 379-401.

Creation:

- *Commentary on the Sentences* II d.1, p.1, a.1, q.2 and short passages from the *Collationes in Hexaemeron (Sermons on the Six Days of Creation)* in Vollert, Cyril O. et al. (trans). *Thomas, Siger, Bonaventure, On the Eternity of the World: (De Aeternitate Mundi)*. Milwaukee, Wis.: Marquette University Press, 1964, pp. 105-117.

Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

Faith and reason:

- *Summa contra gentiles* I, chapters 1-9.

Metaphysics:

Universals and Particulars:

- *De ente et essentia (On Being and Essence)*, chapters 1-3.

Natural Theology:

- *Summa contra gentiles* I, chapters 10-15, 21-22 and 28-35.

Creation:

- *Summa theologiae* I, question 45, articles 1-2 and 5.

Theory of Knowledge:

- *Summa theologiae* I, questions 84-87.

Philosophy of Mind

- *Summa theologiae* I, question 75, articles 1-4; question 76, articles 1-4.

Moral Theory:

Happiness:

- *Summa theologiae* I-II, questions 1-5, in Thomas Aquinas, *Treatise on Happiness*, trans. John A. Oesterle, Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, 1983.

Virtue:

- *Summa theologiae* I-II, questions 55-58, in Thomas Aquinas, *Treatise on the Virtues*, trans. John A. Oesterle, Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, 1984.

Law:

- *Summa theologiae* I-II, questions 90-97; question 100, articles 1-3, 8.

John Duns Scotus (1265-1308)

Metaphysics:

Universals and Particulars:

- *Ordinatio (Oxford Commentary on the Sentences)* II, dist. 3, part 1, qq. 1, 5-6, in Spade, pp. 57-68, 93-113.

Univocity of Being

- *Ordinatio* I d. 3 q. 1 ‘second statement’, in Wolter, pp. 19-25.

Theory of Knowledge:

- *Ordinatio* I, dist. 3, question 4, in Duns Scotus, *Philosophical Writings* (Hackett), pp. 97-132

Moral Theory:

- *Ordinatio* III, dist. 37, in Allan Wolter, *Duns Scotus on the Will and Morality*, (Translation edition), Washington, D. C: Catholic University of America Press, 1998, pp. 198-207.

William of Ockham (c. 1285-1347)

Logic:

Theory of terms:

- *Summa logicae* I, chapters 1-4, 10-12, 30-33, 63-66, in Michael J. Loux, *Ockham's Theory of Terms, Part I of the Summa logicae*, Notre Dame, Ind.: University of Notre Dame Press, (1974).

Theory of propositions:

- *Summa logicae* II, chapters 1-4, 7, 9-10, 12-14, in Alfred J. Freddoso and Henry Schuurman, *Ockham's Theory of Propositions: Part II of the Summa logicae*, Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1980.

Metaphysics:

Universals:

- *Summa logicae* I, chapters 14-17, in *Ockham's Theory of Terms*.

Theory of Knowledge:

- *Quodlibeta Septem* I, questions 13-15; V, questions 5-6; VI, question 6, in William of Ockham, *Quodlibetal Questions*, trans. Alfred J. Freddoso and Francis E. Kelley, 2 vols., New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991.

Moral Theory:

- *Quodlibeta Septem* I, question 20; II, question 14; III, questions 14-16.

SUGGESTED SECONDARY READINGS

Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy, ed. Edward Craig. London: Routledge:

- MacDonald, Scott and Norman Kretzmann (1998). *Medieval philosophy*. (With links to many topical articles and all figures.)
- Matthews, Gareth B. (1998, 2004). *Augustine*.
- Hopkins, Jasper (1998). *Anselm of Canterbury*.
- Tweeddale, Martin M. (1998). *Abelard, Peter*.
- Kent, Bonnie (1998). *Bonaventure*.
- Kretzmann, Norman and Eleonore Stump (1998, 2003). *Aquinas, Thomas*.
- Dumont, Stephen D. (1998). *Duns Scotus, John*.
- Panaccio, Claude (1998). *William of Ockham*.

The Cambridge Companion to:

- Medieval Philosophy*. A. S. McGrade (2003).
- Augustine*. Eleonore Stump and Norman Kretzmann (2001).
- Anselm*. Brian Davies and Brian Leftow. (2004).
- Abelard*. Jeffrey Brower and Kevin Guilfooy. (2004).
- Arabic Philosophy*. Peter Adamson and Richard C. Taylor. (2005).
- Medieval Jewish Philosophy*. Daniel H. Frank and Oliver Leaman. (2005).
- Aquinas*. Norman Kretzmann and Eleonore Stump. (1993).
- Duns Scotus*. Thomas Williams. (2003).
- Ockham*. Paul V. Spade. (1999).

MODERN PHILOSOPHY EXAM READING LIST

1. **Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679)**, *Leviathan*, ed. Curley (Hackett):

Introduction and chapters 1-6; 10-19

Possible Topics: mechanism, reason and passions, state of nature, laws of nature, contract, sovereign

2. **Rene Descartes (1596-1650)**, *The Philosophical Writings of Descartes*, eds. Cottingham, Stoothoff, and Murdoch (Vols. I and II, Cambridge):

Meditations on First Philosophy (entire)
Objections and Replies (second and fourth set)
Principles of Philosophy (Part One only)

Possible Topics: skepticism and justification; knowledge of God, the mind, and material objects, theory of ideas, mind-body relations

3. **Benedict (Baruch) Spinoza (1632-1677)**, *Ethics*, trans. Curley (Princeton)

Parts I-II: complete
Part III: preface, definitions, propositions 1-7
Part IV: preface, definitions, axiom, propositions 1-8; scholium to proposition 17
Part V: preface and propositions 23-42

Possible Topics: God, substance monism, principle of sufficient reason, necessity and contingency, mind-body relations, theory of ideas; egoism; affects; eternity of the mind

4. **Gottfried Leibniz (1646-1716)**, *Philosophical Essays*, trans. Ariew and Garber (Hackett):

Discourse on Metaphysics (entire)
The Monadology (entire)
Letters to Clark (Letters 3 and 4, with Clarke's replies)

Possible Topics: God, the notion of a substance, necessary and contingent truths, principle of sufficient reason, nature of space and time, mind-body relations

5. **John Locke (1632-1704)**, *An Essay concerning Human Understanding*, ed. Peter Nidditch (Oxford, 1975/1990):

Epistle to the Reader; Bk. 1, Chs. 2 & 4;
Bk. 2, Chs. 1-9, 12, 23, 26-27;
Bk. 3, Ch. 3;
Ch. 6, esp. Secs. 1-9, 12-20, 22-23, 25-29;
Bk. 4, Ch. 1;
Ch. 2, esp. Secs. 1-7, 9-11, 13-15;
Ch. 3, esp. Secs. 1-6, 10-14, 16-19, 21;
Ch. 9;
Ch. 10, esp. Secs. 1-7;
Ch. 15.

Possible Topics: theory of ideas; criticism of innate ideas; complex ideas of substances, of modes, and of relations; representation; causation; primary-secondary quality distinction; personal identity; real and nominal essences; intuitive, demonstrative, and sensitive knowledge; existence of God

6. **Isaac Newton (1642-1727)**, *Philosophical Writings*, ed. Andrew Janiak (Cambridge, 2004):

The Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy (1687) [extracts], pp. 40-93;
Queries 28, 30, 31 to the *Opticks* (3rd edn., 1721), pp. 127-140.

Possible Topics: editor's summary of law of gravity (pp. 44-52); Newton on matter (p. 59); motion and forces (pp. 60-3); space and time (pp. 64-70); 3 laws of motion (pp. 70-2); 4 rules for the study of natural philosophy (pp. 87-9); gravity and God (pp. 90-3); atoms and God (pp. 132-40).

7. **George Berkeley (1685-1753)**, *A Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*, ed. Kenneth Winkler (Hackett):

Introduction and Part I, esp. secs. 1-44, 50-2, 65-81.

Possible Topics: theory of ideas; criticism of abstract ideas; representation; causation; criticism of primary-secondary quality distinction; immaterialism; perception of distance; God and laws of nature.

8. **David Hume (1711-1776)**, *A Treatise of Human Nature*, ed. David Fate Norton & Mary Norton (Oxford, 2000):

Bk. 1, entire;
Bk. 2, Pt. 1, Sec. 1;
Pt. 3, Secs. 1-6 & 9;
Bk. 3, Pt. 1, Secs. 1-2;
Pt. 2, Secs. 1-2 & 5;
Pt. 3, Sec. 1;
Appendix to Bk. 3.

Possible Topics: theory of impressions and ideas; representation and the copy principle; natural relations vs. philosophical relations; knowledge; belief; cause and effect; idea of necessary connection; skepticism with regard to reason; skepticism with regard to the senses; liberty and necessity; the will and the passions; moral distinctions not derived from reason but from the moral sense; justice as an artificial virtue; the natural virtues.

9. **Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)**, *On the Social Contract*, trans. Cress (Hackett)

Book One

Possible Topics: State of nature, liberty and society; natural rights; social contract; the sovereign

10. **Immanuel Kant (1724-1804)**, *Critique of Pure Reason*, trans. Wood and Guyer (Cambridge); *Practical Philosophy*, trans. Gregor (Cambridge)

Critique of Pure Reason

Avii-xxii A preface
Bvii- B129 B preface, Intro, Aesth.
B129- B169 Tr. Ded.
B176-B187 Schematism
B187- B279 Princ.
B349- B406 Tr. Dial.
B406- B488 Paral., Antin.
B543- B595 Antin. Sol.
B595- B642 Tr. Ideal.

Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals (sections 1 and 2)

Critique of Practical Reason (Book I, ch. 1; Book II, ch. 2, sec. 5)

Possible Topics: synthetic a priori, transcendental idealism, transcendental arguments, substance, causality, nature of mind and space and time, arguments for God's existence; the categorical imperative, freedom, justification of morality

11. **John Stuart Mill (1806-1873)**, *Utilitarianism*, ed. George Sher (Hackett)

Chapters 2-5

Possible Topics: utilitarianism; proof of the principle of utility; connection between justice and utility