



UNIVERSITETET I OSLO

DET HUMANISTISKE FAKULTET

EXPHIL03E and EXPHIL03 Exam Spring 2016 – self-study variant

Tuesday May 10th - at 09:00-13:00 (4 hours)

The set consists of two pages
No books or aids are permitted during the exam
Both part I and part II must be answered

Part I: History of Philosophy and Science

Either:

1. Aristotle and Simone de Beauvoir

Both a) and b) must be answered.

- a) In his essay *Politics*, Aristotle expresses his views on what the relations between men and women should be – with respect to both household management (the family) and the state. Provide an outline of Aristotle's views.
- b) In her book *The Second Sex*, Simone de Beauvoir claims that women, from a historical perspective, have been perceived as “doomed to immanence”. Explain what she means by this, and discuss whether the views of Aristotle, regarding the natural role or function of women, can be said to strengthen or weaken de Beauvoir's claim.

Or:

2. Hume and Heisenberg on causality and the laws of nature

Both a) and b) must be answered.

- a) Give an outline of Hume's theory of knowledge, with particular emphasis on the relationship between cause and effect. In what way does Hume's view of causality affect the possibility of knowledge of natural laws?
- b) Explain what “determinism” means. According to Heisenberg, in what sense does modern physics not take part in a deterministic view of nature and natural laws? How do you think Hume would perceive of this kind of determinism in relation to natural laws (i.e., the kind that Heisenberg criticizes)?

Del II: Ethics

Either:

3. Virtue ethics and utilitarianism

Both a) b) and c) must be answered.

- a) In virtue ethics, the characteristics or qualities we call virtues are meant to guide us towards a goal: the good life. Give a brief outline of virtue ethics according to Rosalind Hursthouse.
- b) Utilitarianism is also concerned with goals: utility, happiness etc. Give a brief outline of utilitarianism according to JJC Smart.
- c) Discuss briefly some similarities and differences between the two theories.

Or:

4. Fried and Friedman on autonomy

Both a) and b) must be answered.

- a) Fried says in his essay. "What we may not do to each other, the things which are wrong, are precisely those forms of personal interaction which deny to our victim the status of a freely choosing, rationally valuing, specially efficacious person, the special status of moral personality." Fried here emphasises respect for persons and their autonomy as the basic moral requirement. Give an account of this view.
- b) A cardinal point in Friedman's essay on feminist ethics is her discussion of the concept of autonomy, and a critique of the Kantian view of autonomy. Give an account of her view. Is her criticism to the point?