

EXPIL03 Autumn 2020– self study option

Both History of Philosophy and Ethics are to be answered.

Tips and tricks:

- You do not have to worry about saving your document. Inspira autosaves every 15 seconds and every time you navigate from one section of the assignment to another.
- You can choose language in the top right menu
- On the top left you can see how much time is left of the exam.
- You can adjust the size of the box in which you are writing with the four arrows icon above the box. You can reset it by pressing the same icon once more.

Formal requirements:

- **Independence.** All parts of the examination must be your own independent work and a result of your own learning and efforts. Therefore: do not “copy and paste”, use your own words, and do not work together with other students during the exam.

References. If you use literal repetition/word-for-word repetition of something that another author has written then references must be given. Direct citations of text must be enclosed within quotation marks. If you give a free rendering (in your own words) of something another author has written or said (paraphrase), then you do not need to give a precise reference in this home exam, but you need to write down whose ideas you are using.

It is not required with a list of references on these home exam questions.

General information:

- Plagiarism control: All submissions are electronically checked for plagiarism against online resources, various text databases, and other students assignments submitted this semester and earlier. If submissions fail to refer to sources or coincide with other responses it can lead to suspicion of cheating and can result in serious consequences for you as a student.
- The exam will automatically be submitted when the exam time is out. If you chose not to submit even though you have started the exam then you must withdraw from the exam, or delete all of the answers that you have made. You can withdraw using the menu in the upper right corner.

If you encounter any technical problems, you can call the department at 22 85 45 99

For questions regarding assignments, you can call one of the teachers:

Ingvild Torsen, tlf. 22 85 78 50

Panos Dimas, tlf. 450 66 434

1 Part I History of philosophy and science

Answer 1 or 2











1. Both a) and b) should be answered

a) In his moral philosophy, David Hume suggests that we cannot logically move from 'is' to 'ought', or from description of facts to normative statements. What does Hume mean by this, and how does he explain this position?

b) Explain Aristotle's function argument and set out the ways in which Aristotle's view is affected by Hume's rejection of the possibility of deriving an 'ought' from an 'is'.

2. What is certain knowledge? Set out at least one argument about what constitutes certain knowledge, and some possible objections. Refer to one or more philosophers from the syllabus in your answer. Think about the subject you are studying at university: can it be said to comprise certain (or partially certain) knowledge?

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Σ | ABC | 

Words: 0

Maximum marks: 0

2 Part II Ethics

Answer 3 or 4














3. Answer both a) and b)

a) In his article 'An outline of a system of utilitarian ethics', J. J. C. Smart claims that he wants to ground his ethics in a principle that 'benevolent and good hearted people' would agree to. What is the principle that Smart thinks such people would choose? What possible objections might be raised against this principle? Draw on the work of one or more philosophers from the syllabus in your answer.

b) The deontologist Charles Fried claims in his chapter 'Elements' from the book 'Right and Wrong' that ethics must be based in a principle that doesn't yield consequences that «decent person» would find unacceptable. Fried believes that right and wrong must be based on 'respect for persons - respect for others and self-respect'. Explain what this principle entails and discuss possible objections to it. Draw on one or more philosophers from the syllabus in your answer.

4. Is it morally problematic to eat non-human animals? Set out an argument for why it IS problematic, and an argument for why it is NOT problematic. Which argument is more convincing, and why? (Hint: you must give reasons, not just state your view!) Draw on one or more philosophers from the syllabus in your answer.

Fill in your answer here

Format | **B** | *I* | U | x_2 | x^2 | I_x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 

Words: 0

Maximum marks: 0