



PHI 1001 History of Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval

16.45 – 18.45

Tuesday 1st February 2011

NO DICTIONARIES ALLOWED

Answer one question from each section.
Please use a separate script for each question.
(Each question carries 50 marks)

Section A Ancient Philosophy

1. The early philosophers (the Presocratics) were called ‘naturalists’ (*phusiologoi*), in contrast to the mythological thinkers that preceded them. What exactly did this contrast consist of? Answer with reference to at least *two* Presocratics you have studied.
2. Why does Socrates reject the views about justice made by the various speakers in the first book of Plato’s *Republic*? What alternative view does he put forward in the rest of the work?
3. What arguments does Aristotle use to show that a correct account of happiness must give virtue a prominent place?
4. Compare and contrast the views of the Epicureans and the Stoics on the problem of free will and determinism.

Section B Medieval Philosophy

5. There is no doubt that Medieval philosophy had a significant role in the general development of European philosophical thought. Do you agree?
6. What influence, if any, had Neoplatonism on Medieval thought?
7. The teachings of Augustine dominated Christian thought until the rise of Aristotelianism in the early thirteenth century. Discuss.
8. Aquinas’ most influential contribution was his account of the relationship between faith and reason and the independence of philosophy from theology. Elaborate.