

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** Follow the directions for each section of the exam. Answer each question fully, using as many technical, philosophical terms as possible. Define terms, whenever appropriate. If an example is called for, do not use any example given either in class or in the readings.

**DUE:** Wednesday, October 8, 2002 (No Late Exams Will Be Accepted For Any Reason.)

***NOTE: IF THE EXAM IS NOT HANDED IN DURING CLASS TIME ON THE DUE DATE, IT CANNOT BE LEFT IN MY MAILBOX OR OFFICE UNLESS IT IS SIGNED CLEARLY BY A STAFF MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE AND DATED. OTHERWISE, THE EXAM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.***

**BE ADVISED THAT USING ANY OUTSIDE RESOURCES (BOOKS, INTERNET, ETC) OTHER THAN YOUR TEXT AND CLASS NOTES, IS DISCOURAGED. IF YOU USE THESE THEY MUST BE ACKNOWLEDGED CAREFULLY OR YOUR EXAM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE.**

**SECTION I - Answer one of the following questions:**

- 1) a. Carefully explain why Wiredu claims that there is no such thing as “African” Philosophy, and why he claims that “Folk thought, as a rule,...[contains]...no philosophy.”  
b. Carefully explain whether Comte agrees with Wiredu or with the author of “Ethnophilosophy.”
- 2) a. Carefully explain the difference between “racism” and “racialism,” showing how these terms are related to the terms “essentialism” and “existentialism.”  
b. Give an example from contemporary American society to illustrate “racism” and “racialism.” Be specific and carefully explain each example.

**SECTION II – Answer one of the following questions:**

- 1) a. Carefully explain your author’s definition of “philosophy.”  
b. In your own view, what is the difference between the following words: philosophy, religion, mythology and science. Explain very carefully; being as specific as possible.
- 2) a. Carefully explain your author’s distinction between “Western and nonWestern” philosophy.  
b. Carefully explain Socrates’ definition of “Philosophy,” showing why Socrates’ views fit into the “Western” definition, according to your author.

**SECTION III – Answer two of the following questions:**

- 1) a. Carefully explain what your author means by the quote “...it has been suggested that the whole of what we know as philosophy is but a footnote to Plato, or,...an extension of the debate between Plato and Aristotle.”  
b. Referring to **either** Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave,” or Aristotle’s “Four Causes,” carefully describe a situation in your life where these ideas were relevant. Be very specific.
- 2) Using specific references to their writings,
  - a. Carefully explain why Anselm represents *Rationalism*.
  - b. Carefully explain why Aquinas represents *Empiricism*.
  - c. Offer one criticism of each of these writer’s Proofs for God’s Existence. Explain these criticisms carefully. (When referring to Aquinas’ Proof, you need use only one of the three we discussed.)

- 3) a. Carefully explain how Descartes and Hume each uses *skepticism*, but for different purposes, and to produce different conclusions.
  - b. Describe a time in your life when you were a *skeptic*. Explain the situation, and its resolution. Did you end up reasoning along the lines of Descartes or Hume? Explain carefully.
  
- 4) a. Carefully explain Kant's "Categorical Imperative," showing how it is both similar to and different from the more traditional "Golden Rule."
  - b. Find a current example from the newspaper of an ethical/moral problem which, in your view, could be resolved by the Categorical Imperative.
  
- 5) a. Carefully explain Nietzsche's criticism of traditional morality and religion.
  - b. Carefully explain whether, in your view, Nietzsche's ideas seem relevant to contemporary American life or not. You must be very specific, giving several *examples* to illustrate your point.