

**PHI 363 - METAPHYSICS  
FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS**

**PHILOSOPHY (100%)**

[\*I'll pick 6 on exam day, and then you will answer 5. For each answer, you should shoot for about 1-2 paragraphs.]

- 1) What is presentism? The growing block theory? Eternalism? And what is the argument from Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity against presentism?
- 2) Is time-travel possible? What is the grandfather paradox? In explaining the paradox, explain whether or not it is possible to change the past.
- 3) Explain McTaggart's argument for the unreality of time. What is the best response to this argument in your opinion? And why?
- 4) What is endurantism? What is perdurantism? Explain the Tib and Tibbles story and explain why the three principles (DAUP, Change, and No-Colocation) are in tension in this case. Then explain how the perdurantist attempts to solve this puzzle.
- 5) Explain the problem of temporary intrinsics for endurantism. Do you think it is a good objection to endurantism? Why or why not?
- 6) What is the pointy conception of time? What is the chunky conception of time? What is the gunky conception of time? Why does the possibility of gunky time seem to be a problem for endurantism? How can the notion of containment help us redefine endurantism to be consistent with gunky time?
- 7) In lecture we discussed four different modes of possibility and necessity: possibly true sentences, impossible sentences, contingently true sentences, and necessary sentences. Come up with your own example for each type. Then explain the possible worlds analysis for possibly true sentences (that is, a sentence like "It is possible that pigs have wings.").
- 8) What is Davis Lewis' modal realism? Explain in your own words why he accepts this crazy view.

- 9) What is ersatz modal realism? How do advocates of that view analyze modal claims about possibility and impossibility?
- 10) What do conventionalists say about modality? And how did Kripke's two cases (about venus and the standard meter stick) show that it was ultimately false?
- 11) What is the paradox of free will and determinism? State it in your own words.
- 12) Explain either libertarianism or compatibilism. And then state one problem/counterexample to that view.

## **LOGIC**

[Due to COVID-19, you'll be taking your final exam online. It is not easy learning how to type out the symbolizations of predicate logic (especially on Blackboard), so there won't be any logic questions on the final exam.]