

Directions for First Exam

Bring *two* bluebooks available in the university bookstore with *nothing* written in or on them (not even your name). These may be redistributed at the time of the exam.

The exam will consist of the three parts, for which the instructions are below. Two of the questions require essays. There are different ways of addressing the essay questions that can result in an excellent grade. You will be judged on the overall quality of your answer, not whether your answer corresponds to a pre-set model. In general, a more thorough answer that explicates the key ideas will score higher than a skeletal answer. Don't pad your answer, but strive to write as complete an answer as possible given the time constraints. You should aim your answer at a generally knowledgeable student who has not taken this class. Explain all that you would need to explain for them to understand your answer.

Part A. Answer each of the following six questions in *two to three* sentences each (not more). Each question is worth up to 5 points (30 points total). See below for the set from which these six questions will be selected.

Part B. Address the following question in an essay (35 points). The essay question will be selected from one of the following:

1. Contrast Descartes's and Aristotle's approach to mental phenomena. How do they differ in their approach to identifying mental phenomena? How do they differ in their characterization of mental phenomena? Are there also points of agreement in their accounts?
2. Brentano distinguishes *genetic* and *descriptive* psychology. What are the differences between the two projects? What are the challenges each confronted in the last part of the 19th century and how did theorists and investigators go about meeting these challenges? What sorts of results were generated by each project?
3. Watson characterizes behaviorism as a more thoroughgoing version of functionalism than that pursued by the functionalists themselves. What was the guiding theme in the functionalist approach to psychology? What is functionalist about the behaviorist's approach? In what way does Watson see the functionalists as falling short in their rejection of structuralism? How does he think behaviorism is more successful in meeting the functionalist's objectives?

Part C. Write an essay on *one* of the following topics (35 points). Three options will be provided.

The following are the question from which the six that will appear in Part A will be selected:

What does Aristotle mean by the concepts *matter* and *form*?

What does Aristotle mean by saying the soul is what actualizes the body?

What are the properties of the animal soul for Aristotle?

What is a final cause for Aristotle?

What are the major differences in the understanding of causation between Aristotelian and mechanistic science?

How does Descartes propose to explain any behavior performed by animals?

What human activities for Descartes defy mechanistic explanation?

For what purpose does Descartes introduce the idea of an Evil Demon?

How did Brentano distinguish genetic and descriptive psychology?

What key feature of mental states did Brentano designate with the word *intentionality*?

What key idea did James adopt from Darwin?

What was Huxley's conscious automaton theory?

How did James respond to the claim that according to scientific accounts, all our actions are determined?

What two things are related in a psychophysical law?

What is a *just noticeable difference*?

What are nonsense syllables and what are they used for?

What is the spacing effect discovered by Ebbinghaus?

What did Pavlov mean by *psychic secretion*?

What role did the notion of *reflex* play in Pavlov's account of behavior?

What distinguishes a structuralist approach to psychology?

What distinguishes a functionalist approach to psychology?