

Midterm Examination

You have 50 minutes. You must complete both parts of the exam in separate blue books. Divide your time carefully between the two sections. Be sure you put your name, TF name and the part you are answering on both blue books. Write neatly and clearly. Illegible responses will not be graded.

Blue Book #1: 4 Short Answers, approx. 5 points each

Please answer ALL four of the following questions. Label each response with its appropriate question.

1. Describe two important differences between classical and neoclassical utilitarianism and explain what turns on them.
2. Explain the difference between “absolute” and “practical” equality as Bentham describes these. What turns on the distinction?
3. How does Marx define exploitation? Explain one respect in which his account is problematic.
4. Explain the difference between “historical” and “patterned” principles of distributive justice. What turns on the distinction?

Blue Book #2: Essay, 30 points.

Please answer ONE of the following two questions. Remember that a good essay will anticipate and respond to the most powerful objections to your view that can be made. Your exam will be evaluated as a whole, so avoid repeating yourself.

1. How would Bentham, Marx, and Nozick evaluate the suggestion that prostitution should be legal? Who would have the best argument? Why?
2. Many people think of *freedom* as more or less synonymous with *voluntary acts*. In different ways Mill and Nozick draw on that intuition in formulating their theories. Marx disagrees vehemently. Why? Is he right? Explain why or why not?