Syllabus

Philosophy of Religion
Professor Eli Hirsch
Spring 2010


Course requirements:

1. You are expected to attend all classes.
2. (20%) Two mini-quizzes (about 15 minutes each), times to be announced.
3. (35%) Take-home midterm exam of about 4 pages on assigned questions (due date to be announced).
4. (45%) Take-home final exam of about 6 pages on assigned questions (due date to be announced).
5. (Extra credit) I will sometimes give a question at the end of class for you to think about. You can present an answer to the class, and defend it. Depending on how well you do, you will get from 0-2 points added to your final average.

Initial Reading Assignments
I. The Ontological Argument
   St. Anselm, 98-100
   Malcolm, 100-116

II. The Cosmological Argument
   Aquinas, 121-23
   Brown, only pp. 136-37
   Clarke, 138
   Rowe, 142-157

III. The Teleological Argument
   Paley, 158-169
   Hume, 169-180

IV Miracles
   Hume, 213-217
   Swinburne, 217-225

V Mysticism and Religious Experience
   James, 226-242
   Alston, 257-265

VI The Argument from Evil
   Hume, 266-273
   McCloskey, 273-291

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Please Note: If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis and need to have special accommodations for this class, please see me immediately.