

Third and final mini-paper draft

PHIL 13195

Due: in class, next Thursday

For the third and last draft of your mini-paper, you should do the following (and only the following) three things:

1. Give an analysis of Aquinas' second way in premise/conclusion form. The argument should be valid. You should revise the argument from your first & second drafts in response to my comments.
2. Pick the premise of your revised argument which you think is weakest, or most open to question. In one paragraph, develop an objection to that premise. You can revise this objection in response to my comments on your second draft. You may also have to revise your objection if you revise your interpretation of Aquinas' argument.
3. In a third paragraph, say how you think that Aquinas should reply to this objection. You may do this in two ways: (1) by directly responding to the objection (i.e., by defending the premise in question against the objection), or (2) by showing how the argument can be reformulated so as to avoid the objection.

When you hand in your paper, you should also include your first and second drafts. You should feel free to either revise the paper you handed in in the second draft in light of my comments, or start from scratch with a new formulation of the argument and objection.

Again, that's all you have to do. Don't write an introduction, or conclusion. Just a formalized argument + a one-paragraph objection to one of the premises + a reply to that objection or a reformulation of the argument which avoids the problematic premise.

This draft will be graded, and is worth 10% of your final grade.