

## Short paper #2

PHIL 10106

*due: March 3*

*have a rough draft ready for discussion on February 21*

This paper will have three parts, which should be clearly numbered and separated:

- (1) Explain what you take to be the strongest argument in favor of the view that you have free will.
- (2) Explain what you take to be the strongest argument against the view that you have free will.
- (3) Which argument is stronger? Why?

While you can write more or less as needed, a rough guideline is between 1/2 page and 2 pages per part. The paper should be handed in as an email attachment to your TA. There will be five short paper assignments in this class, and every student must complete four of them.

### *Grading rubric*

Papers will be judged according to the following seven criteria:

- (i) in (1), explains an argument for free will clearly, making explicit all relevant premises as well as the logical relations between them;
- (ii) in (1), explains why the premises of that argument might seem plausible;
- (iii) in (2), explains an argument for free will clearly, making explicit all relevant premises as well as the logical relations between them;
- (iv) in (2), explains why the premises of that argument might seem plausible;
- (v) in (3), makes a good argument in favor of one of these arguments being stronger, making reference to specific premises in the arguments in (1) and (2);
- (vi) in accomplishing one or more of the above, makes substantial original points which go beyond material discussed in lecture and discussion sections; and
- (vii) is free of grammatical and spelling errors.

An A paper accomplishes all 7. A typical A- paper would accomplish (i)-(v) and (vii), but not (vi); but in general an A- paper is one which fails to meet one of the above criteria. A B+ paper is typically one which fails to meet two of the above criteria, or egregiously fails to meet one. A B paper is one which fails to meet three of the above criteria, or fails to meet two, one of which it egregiously fails to meet. And so on. Obviously, meeting or failing to meet these criteria is a matter of degree, and we will take that into account.