

National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hEireann, Gaillimh

SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATIONS 2003/4

PHILOSOPHY

THIRD ARTS EXAMINATION

Professor B. Starr
Professor M.H. Woerner
Dr. T. Duddy

Time: 2 hours

Answer two (2) questions, one from Section A and one from Section B. Use separate answer books for each question.

PI312 Philosophy of Mind/Epistemology

Section A

1. 'Behaviourism fails to give an adequate account of such "private" mental activities as remembering, imagining, and thinking to oneself.' Discuss.
2. Outline and discuss the mind-brain identity thesis.
3. Explain and evaluate Thomas Nagel's claim that it is a mystery how the true character of experience can be revealed in the physical operation of an organism.
4. Write an essay on eliminative materialism, taking into account John Searle's critique of it.
5. Write an essay on Artificial Intelligence, taking into account the 'carbon chauvinist' critique advanced by Fred Dretske.
6. Write an essay on some of the contemporary arguments for dualism.

Section B

1. Write an essay on indirect realism as a solution to the problem of perception.
2. Write an essay on the problem of objectivity, taking into account the internal realism of Hilary Putnam.
3. Write an essay on the significance of Edmund Gettier's article 'Is justified true belief knowledge?'
4. Write an essay on scepticism, with particular reference to Peter Unger's view that there is hardly anything we can know with absolute certainty.
5. Give an account of Richard Rorty's critique of representationalism, and contrast his view with that of Margarita Levin as presented in her 'Defense of Objectivity'.