



Philosophy of religion [PY 3110]

Introductory reading

Davies, B. *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993) second edition.

Davis, Stephen T. *God, Reason and Theistic Proofs*. (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1997).

Kenny, A. *The God of the Philosophers*. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1979).

Sample examination questions

1. How convincing is Anselm's ontological argument?
2. Do cosmological arguments depend on the Principle of Sufficient Reason?
3. Describe and assess a version of the argument from design.
4. Is there a persuasive moral argument for the existence of God?
5. What problems are raised for human freedom by the claim that there is divine foreknowledge? Can these problems be solved?
6. Does the simplicity of God compromise divine freedom?
7. How satisfactory is Augustine's answer to the problem of evil?
8. What is Pascal's Wager? How successful is it as an exercise in apologetics?
9. Critically examine a divine command theory of ethics.
10. Is it reasonable to expect God to act in response to prayer?
11. Is Hume right to reject miracles as a basis for faith?
12. What is the epistemological significance of religious experience?
13. Describe and evaluate Wittgensteinian fideism.
14. Plantinga has defended the view that Christian belief is properly basic. How successful is his argument?
15. Is Swinburne right that there is cumulative evidence for Christian belief?
16. What is eternal life?