

# **Norms, Natures and God**

Alexander R. Pruss



## Contents

Acknowledgments	5
Chapter I. Introduction	6
1. Introductory Remarks	6
2. Aristotelian Natures	6
Chapter II. Ethics	7
1. Mersenne Problems	7
2. Normative Ethics	7
3. Flourishing	7
4. Metaethics	7
5. Medical ethics	7
6. Environmental ethics	7
Chapter III. Epistemology	8
1. Priors	8
2. Infinity, self-indication and other limitations of Bayesianism	8
Chapter IV. Mind	9
Chapter V. Semantics	10
Chapter VI. Metaphysics	11
Chapter VII. Laws of nature and causal powers	12
Chapter VIII. Harmony, Evolution and God	13
1. Harmony	13

CONTENTS	4
2. Explaining harmony by natures and evolution	13
2.1. Number of natures	13
2.2. Nomic coordination	13
2.3. Fit to DNA	13
2.4. Fit to niche	13
2.5. Nature zombies	13
3. Explaining harmony theistically	13
Chapter IX. Eternal Life and Fulfillment	14
Chapter X. Aristotelian Details	15

## **Acknowledgments**

Central ideas for this paper were developed as part of the Wilde Lectures in Natural and Comparative Religion at Oxford University, Trinity Term, 2019.

## CHAPTER I

### **Introduction**

- 1. Introductory Remarks**
- 2. Aristotelian Natures**

## CHAPTER II

### **Ethics**

#### **1. Mersenne Problems**

#### **2. Normative Ethics**

#### **3. Flourishing**

#### **4. Metaethics**

#### **5. Medical ethics**

#### **6. Environmental ethics**

## CHAPTER III

# Epistemology

### 1. Priors

### 2. Infinity, self-indication and other limitations of Bayesianism



## CHAPTER IV

### **Mind**

## CHAPTER V

### **Semantics**

## CHAPTER VI

# **Metaphysics**

## CHAPTER VII

### **Laws of nature and causal powers**

## CHAPTER VIII

# Harmony, Evolution and God

### 1. Harmony

### 2. Explaining harmony by natures and evolution

<sup>1</sup>

2.1. Number of natures.

2.2. Nomic coordination.

2.3. Fit to DNA.

2.4. Fit to niche.

2.5. Nature zombies.

### 3. Explaining harmony theistically

---

<sup>1</sup>This section owes much to discussion in my mid-sized objects seminar, and especially to Christopher Tomaszewski's suggestions on the explanatory powers of forms.

## CHAPTER IX

### **Eternal Life and Fulfillment**

## CHAPTER X

### **Aristotelian Details**