

World Philosophies, India: Spring 2023

Final Exam

June 2, 2023: 12:00-15:00, Lipsius 0.19

Instructor: Dr. Stephen Harris

Leiden Institute for Philosophy

Please begin by writing your name and student number neatly on your Exam book. If I can't read your name, I can't grade your exam!

Answer all parts of the essay question below. There's no space limit, but you should aim for a response of about 650-1,000 total words. I recommend that you start a new section in your answer book for each section of the response. (Skip a space or write "Part 2" etc.). Please be sure to explain the relevant terms in your answer. Don't include information not clearly relevant to the question. Very long essays that include not clearly relevant or false information will receive lower grades than shorter essays without this material. Citations are not required.

The exam is open book, open notes, however, you may not use any device which can connect to the internet.

1) Explain the account of Self (ātman) accepted by the Vaiśeṣika and Nyāya schools. Explain two of the arguments provided by the Nyāya school in support of this account of self. Which school/position are these arguments raised against? Critique both arguments. Can the school in question provide a response?

2) Explain the role of the *manas* (the mental organ) in the Vaiśeṣika and Nyāya schools. What role do the *manas* play in sense perception?

3) Contrast the position of the Yogācāra philosopher, Vasubandhu, with the one you have presented above in parts 1 and 2. How does Vasubandhu explain instances (or at least apparent instances) of sense perception, such as seeing, hearing and so on? Which account is more convincing? Why?