**PHIL 343: Exam 1**

**Possible Exam Questions**

**(February 18, 2019)**

On the day of the examination, you will be asked to answer exactly *one* of questions below. Note that the questions listed are only *possible* questions you might be asked on the day of the exam (so be prepared to answer all of these questions). You will have approximately 50 minutes to write your answer.

Hints: Try to address the question as *directly and succinctly* as possible. You will be evaluated on your ability to demonstrate an understanding of the materials. In preparing your answers, it will be useful to have a basic outline in mind to frame how you will answer each question. Your written answer should be (*at least*) 4 pages (written double-spaced/ skipping a line).

Plagiarism of any kind will result in failure of the course. See the university’s guidelines on plagiarism at: <http://instr.iastate.libguides.com/content.php?pid=10314>

**Possible Questions**

**1. In “The Scientific Conception of the World: The Vienna Circle,” the logical positivists articulate a view that they call the ‘scientific world conception.’ What are the main features of scientific knowledge associated with the scientific world conception? Explain the positivists’ view that science is a value-neutral instrument that should be applied in order to achieve benefits for society. How is it similar to Dewey’s view in “Science and Society.”**

**2. In his paper, “By Nature and by Art,” John Dewey articulates a distinction between ‘knowledge by nature’ and ‘knowledge by art.’ Explain Dewey’s distinction and its significance for his views on technology. In particular, explain why Dewey thinks the traditional ideal of ‘knowledge by nature’ should be *replaced* by the ideal of ‘knowledge by art’ and the role that technology plays in Dewey’s preferred ideal of knowledge.**

**3. In “The Question Concerning Technology,” Martin Heidegger articulates a critical perspective on technology. What does Heidegger think is the essence of technology? Explain what Heidegger means when he claims that technology is a “way of revealing” (p. 12). In addressing these questions, make sure that you explain Heidegger’s concepts of ‘revealing,’ ‘challenging,’ ‘standing-reserve,’ and ‘enframing.’**