

Civilization Sequence 203
Summer 2002-2003
Final Examination
Tuesday, August 19th, 2003
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Choose 5 of the following questions (50 points)

- 1) What is the difference between a hypothetical and a categorical imperative? Give an example of each.
- 2) What are the individuals' natural rights in Locke's state of nature, and why do they move to society according to him?
- 3) Explain what Hobbes' covenant is.
- 4) What does Marx mean when he says that the State is "political"?
- 5) Explain what the inductive method is and give an example of your own, of an inductive argument.
- 6) Why did Descartes use the sceptical method?
- 7) Define Bentham's utility principle and explain how it's both an objective and subjective criterion.

Choose 1 of the following essays (50 points)

- 1) *"Three scientists, a physicist, a biologist and a mathematician, decided to conduct a common experiment. For several days, they observed a house from across the street, and noticed that two persons entered the house. A few days later, they saw three people leave the house, which the scientists had to explain. The physicist stated that this was a contradiction, and was certainly due to the tools of measurement, therefore the experiment had to be done again. The biologist didn't find any contradiction, and concluded that the two people must simply have reproduced inside the house. The mathematician calmly deduced from the facts that one person needed to go into the house, and the house would be empty again..."*

Reflect upon this scientific joke and try to make a synthesis of the different schools of thought interested in knowledge and its methods. Give your own evaluation of these methods, with regard to your major.

- 2) What does it mean to be a citizen? Based on the material you studied in CS 203, try to define the place of the individual in society and his relation to the political authority. Is citizenship a new identity?
- 3) Do you think moral values are absolute or evolve with human progress? Is there progress without morals?

Good luck!