

Study Guide for Exam #3 (Nineteenth Century Philosophy)

You may prepare notes on this study guide to help you write the exam, and this sheet will need to be turned in with the exam. You may also use the texts of Kierkegaard and Nietzsche (**and I expect you to cite them in your answers**). The exam needs to be written within the space of two hours, and will consist of a selection from the following questions (or some recombination of them). You can use any resource at your disposal when preparing for these short essays, but you should start with the primary readings.

1. Both Kierkegaard and Nietzsche are seen as early theorists of what later came to be known as existentialism. What are the most significant similarities and differences between these two characters? Do their similarities point towards existentialism?
2. Compare Kierkegaard and Nietzsche on belief, faith, and knowledge.
3. Both Kierkegaard and Nietzsche placed an emphasis on the importance of the individual. Compare their approaches to this topic.
4. Pretend you are Kierkegaard: Tell me about Hegel. (How did Kierkegaard understand Hegel, and what did he not like?)
5. What caused Kierkegaard such *Fear and Trembling*? Discuss and evaluate.
6. Describe and evaluate Kierkegaard's exegesis of the Abraham story
7. Compare and contrast the knight of infinite resignation and the knight of faith.
8. What does Kierkegaard mean by the teleological suspension of the ethical?
9. What does Kierkegaard mean by the different 'kinds of life' or 'spheres of existence'?
10. What does Kierkegaard mean by 'despair'?
11. What does Nietzsche mean by 'the slave revolt in morality'? What role does it play?
12. Where do our feelings of 'moral responsibility' come from, according to Nietzsche?
13. What does Nietzsche mean by 'the ascetic ideal'? Why is this such an important concept for him?
14. What is involved with Nietzsche's exhortation that "you are to become who you are"?
15. Nietzsche claims that "God is dead." So what? And what does he mean by 'the shadows of God'?
16. What does Nietzsche mean by 'genealogy'?
17. How should we understand Nietzsche's doctrine of eternal recurrence?
18. What does Nietzsche mean by perspectivism? What does he mean by positivism?
19. What is knowledge and belief, according to Nietzsche?
20. There is no item #20. But if there were, what would it be?