

MA Examination
ARABIC PHILOSOPHY

Answer THREE questions.

1. Evaluate al-Kindi's argument that God cannot be the subject of predication, since He is the "true One."
2. Assess al-Kindi's argument that the world cannot be eternal.
3. Do al-Kindi's views on the soul make it impossible for him to explain what contribution sensation could make to knowledge?
4. Explain al-Farabi's four-fold scheme of intellects. Is there anything al-Farabi's scheme fails to explain about human knowledge?
5. Were Aristotelian philosophers in the Baghdad school persuasive in their arguments for the superiority of logic to grammar?
6. Evaluate al-Farabi's view that religion is a dialectical analogue to demonstrative philosophy.
7. What is Avicenna's "Flying Man" argument intended to prove? Does it succeed?
8. Evaluate Avicenna's proof of God as the Necessary Existent.
9. Discuss the role of EITHER abstraction OR intuition (*hads*) in Avicenna's epistemology.
9. Does al-Ghazali show convincingly that natural causal relations are not necessary?
10. Does al-Ghazali argue persuasively that the world need not be eternal?
11. Can Averroes' mature epistemology explain the fact that, in the words of Aquinas, it is "*this man* who thinks"?
12. Did Averroes hold a "twofold theory of truth"?