

Name: _____

Due: October 21, 2009 at 12 noon

Course: PHILO 2483, Intelligent Design

Place: In cyberspace

Instructor: William A. Dembski, Fleming 215D

Grader: Jack Greenoe (JLGreenoe AT elearning.swbts.edu)

TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM

Please answer each of the following questions in 300 words or less. Answer every part of each question. Be concise. This exam is open-book, but you can only consult general reference books (e.g., the Bible), the books read in class, and the notes you took in class. You may not cruise the Internet in search of answers or in any way seek the help of others. Your completed exam needs to be emailed to the grader, Jack Greenoe, by Wednesday 12:00 noon. In turning this paper in you agree, on pain of divine judgment, that this is entirely your own work.

Answer the following questions [20 points each, no more than 300 words per question]:

1. How does ID differ from creationism as well as from natural theology? How do you respond to the charge that ID is “pseudoscience”? How do you respond to the charge that ID is “religion”?
2. Briefly outline Darwin’s theory of evolution (contrast the supposed pattern of evolution in natural history with the mechanism of evolution). What are some of the scientific problems with this theory?
3. What is Michael Behe’s concept of irreducible complexity? Give two examples of irreducibly complex systems. Why do irreducibly complex systems pose an obstacle to Darwinian processes? How do Darwinists attempt to refute Behe? Critique their refutation.
4. What is specified complexity? Give two examples. How does it provide a reliable method for detecting design? Is it applicable to biology? Is it applicable to other sciences? Explain.
5. Theistic evolutionists such as Karl Giberson argue that evolution is reconcilable with Christian theism. Can such an argument be successfully made? What obstacles stand in the way of reconciling Christianity with evolution? Did Giberson himself, in his book *Saving Darwin*, adequately reconcile Christianity with evolution? Explain.