

Jan 12th, 2004

P340: Homework Assignment No. 1

DUE DATE: Monday, 26th Jan. 2004

Please note that late assignments will not be marked

(1) Explain briefly what is meant by a syllogism. It will help to give an example.

(2) One of the most important ideas to come from Greek mathematics was that of an *axiomatic system*. Explain what this is, in a way which might be suitable for a paragraph or two in a newspaper article (ie., understandable to someone with no specialized knowledge).

(3) Write an essay, of roughly 1000 words, which expresses your views on the existence of a 'supra-sensible' world, populated by timeless and indestructible entities or "Forms", like mathematical objects. You should briefly discuss the opinions of at least some of the ancient Greeks, but the most important part of the essay should give your own analysis of the question.