

PHI 171 – PROBLEMS OF PHILOSOPHY – FALL 2015

MARCELLO DI BELLO – LEHMAN COLLEGE, CUNY

ASSIGNMENT #2 – DUE MON OCT 5TH

This assignment tests your ability to understand and reconstruct objections to a philosophical argument. Your answers should be typed and written in good and clear English. *Be concise but precise!* Do not write in essay form. The expected length of this assignment is 2-3 pages.

1 ANSELM’S ARGUMENT

Summarize Anselm’s argument for the existence of God. In doing so, please make sure that

- you explain as clearly as possible the reasoning steps and what follows from what;
- you identify the definition and presupposition(s) in the argument;
- you show why Anselm’s is an argument by contradiction.

2 OBJECTIONS

Summarize at least two of the objections we have discussed against Anselm’s argument.

3 THINK FOR YOURSELF

Examine one objection in detail. Please answer the following:

- (a) Is it a good objection? Why or why not?
- (b) What does (or could) Anselm respond?