

Some subset of these questions will be on the PHYS 102 Midterm:

1. Several prominent European scientists fled the European continent in response to the anti-Semitic actions of the governments of Germany and Italy. Name at least two of these prominent scientists and describe their role in the initiation of the atomic bomb project by the US.
2. Biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons are together termed “weapons of mass destruction.” Using examples from Preston’s book, describe at least two ethical arguments that scientists used to justify either working or not working on weapons of mass destruction. Cite at least one pro and one con justification.
3. What difficulties did the women scientists portrayed in Preston’s book face? Describe how at least one women scientist overcame the obstacles to play a significant role in the development of nuclear science (and describe her role).
4. Name at least two actions taken by the German government that alarmed Allied observers and convinced the observers that the Germans were working on a nuclear weapon. Explain why, from a scientific or technological point of view, the actions were considered a strong indication of a nuclear weapons program.