

MID-TERM REVIEW

FORMAT OF EXAM

1. Argument identification (20 pts)
2. Definitions (20 pts)
3. Multiple choice (30 pts)
4. Short answer/essay (30 pts)

WHAT IS FOOD?

- What is it to define a concept?
- Natural vs. social concepts/kinds
- Defining food in terms of nutrients (“nutritionism”)
- Problems with nutritionism
- Alternatives to nutritionism (agrianism & food holism)

THE INDUSTRIAL FOOD SYSTEM

- Features of IFS
 - technologically driven
 - large scale
 - high efficiency
 - monoculture
 - commodification
- Pollan's "genealogical" critique of IFS

THE ETHICS OF EATING

- Details of poultry, beef, lobster farming/meat production
- Moral status
- Problem of Marginal Cases
- Consequentialism & Utilitarianism
 - Sentience & moral status
- Deontology & Rights theory
 - “Experiencing subject of a life” vs. rational capacities

- Pollan's defenses of ethical omnivorism
 - culture/identity
 - suffering not pain that matters
 - animals are born to be food for us
 - even veganism requires the killing of animals

