

PHI 334 : Final Exam Study Guide and Explanation

So our semester is coming to an end, and a bit earlier than I anticipated. However, though we will not have class Friday or next week, you can reach out to me with questions. I will also post an extra credit assignment worth a significant chunk of your grade in case you either did poorly on an exam or missed a lot of class, or whatever else (does it ever hurt to not have extra credit?). This assignment will be for Friday. Basically, watch a movie I send you (it is free) and write a page report about it.

Now I want to talk about your final. This is what the syllabus says:

Final Exam (20 points, 20%): your final exam will be a holistic cumulative exam where you will be asked to reflect on the entirety of the content covered in class. Unlike other exams, it will not be in person. Rather, it will be an essay that you will submit on canvas by 1pm Wednesday, December 13.

When I say holistic, I mean that the questions will be broad and not super focused on one topic or another. Cumulative refers to the fact that I plan to ask about topics stretching to the beginning of class. Reflect means I will want a reflection and not something such as: “Professor Storozhenko said x, y, z”. I want more something such as: “I think that given the way in which the market has become, we are facing more and more moral harms”. Reflection, not repetition.

Finally, regarding modality, the exam will be a paper you submit on canvas by 1pm December 13. I accepted late exams throughout the semester. I will not accept late finals. Why? Not because I am mean. Rather, because the university wants final grades 24 hours after the exam. If you have a problem with that, please contact the university because this is a really dumb rule.

So, now I am actually going to give you the questions for the exam. You will have until December 13 to do these. Obviously I will not give extensions given how long you have. You have more than two weeks. If you cannot find the time to do the exam in that timespan, I am unsure of what to tell you.

Exam Questions

Here are your directions for the exam. Upload a PDF (only PDFs will work, I do not want .doc, .pages, or any google drive link. PDF or you get a zero) where you have at least 2500 words and answer the following questions. Aim for 250 words per question. There are ten questions. $250 \times 10 = 2500$. Simple enough.

Questions:

1. Give a definition of business according to our class (see early lesson plans) and then say, in detail, what you agree or disagree with in regard to that definition. Is it too broad? Too narrow? General? Specific? I want opinions.
2. Explain how business changes from cavemen, to antiquity, to modernity. Explain which time period you would prefer to inhabit if you could freely choose, and why.

3. Explain deontology and utilitarianism. Compare, contrast, explain what each values in terms of morality (what counts as the good?) and how basic evaluation works. Say which is consequentialist and which one is not.
4. Explain the fundamental nature of virtue ethics, what it values, and how it differs from utilitarianism and deontology.
5. I want you to tell me which moral theory you find most compelling, and why. Give an example, made up or from your life, and explain why the moral theory fits it.
6. Reflect on the way in which my app collects information (legally not data) and say what you think about it, in relation to a moral theory. In other words, analyze what I do in my app via one of the three moral theories.
7. Explain why it is perfectly moral to job hop and why you do not owe anything to the employer you presently may have. In other words, argue why job hopping is morally justified.
8. Pick drugs, organs, or human bodies. Then explain one argument why it is wrong to sell such items. Be sure to say why that argument makes sense to you.
9. Reflect on the way in which the political and the commercial are intertwined. Pick one instance of some kind of collusion or other shenanigans (see lesson plans) and say how you feel about that.
10. Finally, tell me what is the most valuable thing you learned in this class and why you consider it so.