

## Final Exam



- ▶ The final exam consists of 40 multiple-choice, 10 fill-in-the-blank, and 4 short-essay problems
- ▶ This exam is cumulative, open book, open notes, but closed technology
- ▶ There are 2 parts to this exam, each 60 minutes long, separated by a 60-minute break

At the end of the semester, during finals week, there will be a comprehensive, in-class, sit-down final exam.

This final exam will test your understanding of what you have been studying throughout this entire course. Therefore, the final exam *is* cumulative, ranging over all the material from the readings and our class meetings.

### Here's What I Want You to Do:

The final exam will consist of two parts. Part A will consist of 40 multiple-choice

problems and 10 fill-in-the-blank problems. You will have 60 minutes to complete this part. Part B, on the other hand, will consist of 4 short-essay problems asking you to respond to a case study, which I will have posted on the course website. (I will provide you with a printout copy of that case study to reference during the exam.) You will have another 60 minutes to complete Part B of the final exam.

These two parts of the exam will be separated by a 60-minute break. During

that break, you will be asked to leave the room while I set up the room for part B. During that time you may talk, decompress, use the restroom, pray, complain, brag, and so on. *I strongly suggest using your break to review the case study.*

**Here's Why I Want You to Do It:** The purpose of the final exams is to provide you with one last opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the concepts, arguments, positions, and applications we have covered throughout the course. In addition, I want to gauge your ability to respond to a case study that we have *not specifically covered* during class.

More specifically, the final exam is intended to assess your progress towards all three learning outcomes for this course:

1. Assess competing claims about the demands ethics and morality place on business decisions,

### Final Exam Structure

Part	Problem Type	Total Possible Points	Expected Time to Complete
A	40 Multiple Choice	800	40 Minutes
	10 Fill in the Blank	400	20 Minutes
	60-Minute Break		
B	4 Short Essay	800	60 Minutes

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2. Reflect on your assumptions and form your own considered judgments about these issues, and
3. Communicate your understanding and analysis of these issues through both verbal and written discourse.

**Here's How to Do It:** Continue to take notes and flesh out your responses to the posted reading questions.

*The final exam is open book and open notes—so developing your course notes remains the best way to prepare yourself for success.*

For the short-essays, *be sure to read each problem carefully*, and make sure that you respond in a way that is comprehensive and demonstrates your understanding and reflection. For instance, *be sure to define any and all course terminology you use in your responses*. However, don't create extra work for yourself by regurgitating information that is not relevant to the specific problem.

I do want this final exam to challenge you, but I never intend to trick you or demand the impossible!

**Here's How You'll Earn Philosophy Experience Points:** Unless I say otherwise, each multiple-choice problem will be worth 20 philosophy experience points. There will be 40 of these problems, for a total of 800 points.

Each multiple-choice problem is scored in the following way:

- Each correct response earns 20 points,
- Each incorrect response earns 0 points, and
- Each blank response (i.e., not trying to answer the problem) earns 5 points.

I award points in this way to discourage random guessing on the unit exams. It also highlights problems that I may need to reassess.

Meanwhile, each fill-in-the-blank problem is worth 40 philosophy experience points. There will be 10 of these problems on the final exam, for a total of 400 points.

Each fill-in-the-blank problem is scored in the following way:

- Each correct response earns 40 points,
- Each incorrect response earns 0 points,
- Each blank response (i.e., not trying to fill in the blank) earns 10 points, and
- Partial credit will be awarded on a case-by-case basis.

Finally, each short-essay problem is worth 200 philosophy experience points. There will be 4 of these problems on the final exam, for a total of 800 points.

Each short-essay problem will be scored based on the quality of the response. However, a blank response (i.e., not writing anything) earns 50 points.

Putting all the above together, you can earn up to a total of 2,000 philosophy experience points on the final exam.

In addition, if you think there is a problem with a final exam problem, let me know! In fact, if I correct a mistake you identify, *I'll give you 0.20 (i.e., one fifth) of a philosopher's stone*. Boo-ya!

## Collaboration & Academic Integrity:

While the final exam may be open book and open notes, *I expect that you are bringing your own materials to the exam and not simply using copies of someone else's material*. This is because the final exam is meant to assess *your* progress and the extent to which *you* are achieving the learning outcomes.

For similar reasons, I also expect that you *do not try to find old final exams, problems, and their solutions online*.

Of course, if you feel like you are struggling in preparing for the final exam, please do not hesitate to seek help from me.

**The bottom line** Take good notes, keep up with the readings, see me with questions, sleep well the night before, and you should make it out alive.



*"I'd like to extend a special welcome to those of you who are joining us for the first time, as part of a nightmare you're having."*

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## Multiple-Choice Problems (Sample)

For each problem below, clearly indicate the *one* item (A, B, C, or D) that is the best response. (Put your response in the box next to the problem.)

**Grading** Each correct response earns 20 philosophy experience points;  
Each incorrect response earns 0 points; and  
Each non-response (i.e., leaving the “your response” box blank/empty) earns 5 points.

Your Response	Problem
<div data-bbox="110 630 271 791"></div>	<div data-bbox="393 594 1149 840"><p>1. A normative claim may be best understood as a...</p><p>A. curious question that shows a desire to learn more.</p><p>B. factual assertion that attempts to explain a situation.</p><p>C. startling exclamation that draws in our attention.</p><p>D. value judgment that either prescribes or evaluates.</p></div>
<div data-bbox="110 942 271 1104"></div>	<div data-bbox="393 907 1172 1155"><p>2. Which of the following is a normative claim?</p><p>A. Slavery involves the buying and selling of human lives.</p><p>B. Slavery is a horrible and tragic violation of autonomy.</p><p>C. Slavery used to be an extremely profitable business.</p><p>D. Slavery was practiced in the southern United States.</p></div>
<div data-bbox="110 1255 271 1417"></div>	<div data-bbox="393 1220 1117 1503"><p>3. The field of ethical systems design focuses primarily on answering which one of the following questions?</p><p>A. How do we encourage good business?</p><p>B. What is good business?</p><p>C. What is the purpose of business?</p><p>D. What ought I do?</p></div>
<div data-bbox="110 1604 271 1766"></div>	<div data-bbox="393 1568 1292 1816"><p>4. Which of the following is an example of a second-order desire?</p><p>A. I do not want to buy any more clothes that I will only wear once.</p><p>B. I do not want to indulge my urge to punch that jerk in the face.</p><p>C. I want to hang out with my friends and play some video games.</p><p>D. I want to rent some quality scuba gear for my summer vacation.</p></div>

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## Fill-in-the-Blank Problems (Sample)

Fill in each blank below with the *most* appropriate word or phrase.

**Grading** Each correct response is worth 40 philosophy experience points;  
Each incorrect response is worth 0 points;  
Each non-response (i.e., leaving the blank empty) is worth 10 points; and  
Partial credit will be awarded on a case-by-case basis.

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## Problem

1. The principle thesis of \_\_\_\_\_ is that the primary motive for human conduct *ought* to be prudence or self-interest. This theory should be distinguished from \_\_\_\_\_, whose principle thesis is that the primary motive for human conduct *is* prudence or self-interest. Ayn Rand famously defends the former theory, but not the latter.
2. A value judgment that makes an evaluation or a prescription is known as a \_\_\_\_\_ claim. Example of such claims include: more businesses should adopt sustainable business models, Ben & Jerry's is a good company, and the best CEO increases the company's bottom line.
3. According to shareholder theory, the executives of a business have a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship with the company's shareholders, where the executives must serve the interests of the shareholders. In such a relationship, the executives are called the \_\_\_\_\_, while the shareholders are called the \_\_\_\_\_.

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## Short-Essay Problems (Sample)

The case study for this part of the exam is “Uber Surge Pricing or Über Rip Off?” Respond to each of the following four problems, using complete sentences.

**Grading** Each short essay is worth up to 200 philosophy experience points; and  
Not responding (i.e., not writing anything for an essay) is worth 50 points.

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## Problem

1. In his article, “The Ethics of Price Gouging”, Matt Zwolinski argues the following:

Standard cases of price gouging provide great benefit to those in desperate need, ... they tend to lack the morally objectionable features often ascribed to them such as coercion and exploitation, and ... attempts to prohibit the practice will harm individuals who are already vulnerable. [p. 348]

Based on this, what should Travis Kalanick do, according to Zwolinski? What exactly are Zwolinski’s arguments justifying that course of action? (Travis Kalanick was CEO of Uber at the time of this case study.)

2. In his article, “What’s the Matter with Price Gouging?”, Jeremy Snyder concludes that:

The moral wrongs associated with price gouging should be understood generally as failures of respect for others.... Price gouging is only possible in transactions involving some good essential to living a distinctly human life. [p. 289]

Based on this, what should Travis Kalanick do, according to Snyder? What exactly are Snyder’s arguments justifying that course of action?

3. In his article, “Managing for Stakeholders”, R. Edward Freeman argues that “the primary responsibility of the executive is to create as much value as possible for [all] stakeholders” (p. 64).

Based on this, which stakeholders should Travis Kalanick consider, according to Freeman? For each stakeholder (or each group of stakeholders) you name, be sure to clearly explain why they are Uber’s stakeholders in this situation.

4. If *you* were in Travis Kalanick’s position as CEO of Uber and your customers were complaining on social media about your surge pricing practices, how exactly would you respond? What justifies that course of action? How would you secure the legitimate cooperation of Uber’s stakeholders to go along and support your course of action?