**Evil and Suffering**

**Final Exam Study Guide**

*Before you begin the exam, download/open your initial Snapshot Reflection on Evil and Suffering from week 2. You will need to copy and paste this reflection into the exam in order to answer one essay question.*

**The exam will be available online for four days: Monday, December 5 at 2pm through Friday, December 9 at 2pm**

* The exam must be done in one sitting, as if you were in class; 2 hr. time limit
* The exam will consist of: (a) Matching, (b) Multiple choice, (c) Short answer, (d) Essay  
  Questions will come from quizzes, lectures and slides, and discussion (see below)
* The exam is open book, though I encourage you to prepare ahead and try it without books as I suspect you will be up to the task!
* The exam must be completed on your own and not in collaboration with others.

*If you have ability accommodations that permit additional exam time, this will be added to your exam duration.*

**1. Review Quizzes and Lectures**

All matching terms, T/F questions, and multiple choice, which may include:

* May’s account of death and living in awareness of death
* Statement of the Problem of Evil: Job’s Complaint, Voltaire, Dostoevsky
* Approaches to Theodicy: Aquinas, Leibniz, Hume, Plantinga, John Hick
* Existentialist and Stoic responses to evil and suffering (Frankl, Seneca)
* Biology and evil (vs. design theologies) per Darwin
* Black Humanism and evil (Pinn)
* Feminist accounts of evil as relates to “natural order” and dualism (Ruether)
* Animal and ecological suffering (what violations count, to whom, and why? Per Singer or Marder)
* Val Plumwood and Henning and Henning as alternative ways of considering animal and ecological suffering and evil
* Karma based on action or desire (Bronkhurst account)
  + Jaina karma theory and the logic of controlling wrong view, wrong knowledge, and wrong action
    - Evil, suffering and practices of ahiṃsā
  + Buddhist theory and the logic of controlling illusion and desire/craving
    - Boddhisattva vow and practice
* **Terms**
  + Natural evil
  + moral evil
  + hermeneutics
  + ethical dualism
  + karma
  + speciesism
  + theodicy

**2. Short answer or essay (these are themes rather than the exact question)**

* How does the definition/understanding of evil and suffering shape how one responds to it?
* How could practicing “fragility of life” or trying to “integrate mortality (or rebirth/redeath) into life” impact one’s perspective on evil and suffering?
* Consider various emphases, foundations, and practical aspects related to the various accounts of and responses to evil and suffering we have encountered this quarter, such as
  + “rebellions,” song-writing, sitting *shiva*, confusion/anger/sorrow/fear/etc., rejecting God, embracing (traditional or re-worked accounts of) God, overturning dualisms, logos and pathos, “shocking reductions” of fixed humanism, pursuit of freedom, awe and despair at nature’s complexity; challenges to “natural” social order, maintaining virtuous calm amidst distress, restraints of mind, speech, and body toward nonviolence, shrinking or widening the circle of moral consideration of suffering, considering how illusion and wrong view of reality produces and perpetuates suffering and evil

**3. Personal reflection on your own evolution of evil and suffering from your initial Snapshot reflection on Evil and suffering.** Please download your initial Snapshot reflection on evil and suffering prior to beginning the exam.