

SECOND EXAM STUDY GUIDE

Ted Sider
Intro Philosophy

- Thursday, December 21, 12:00 noon (in our usual classroom)
- Closed-book, closed notes
- Worth 30% of your course grade

This exam will only cover the material since the midterm—epistemology and ethics.

The format will be a mixture of true/false or multiple choice type questions, on the one hand, and short-answer/short essay on the other. The short answer section will mostly focus on theories and arguments discussed in class, but I may also ask you to extract, explain, and evaluate a numbered-premise argument from a short paragraph.

It will stress understanding rather than memorization (for example, you don't need to memorize the numbered-premise arguments on the handouts). However, it is important that you be familiar with the main concepts, theories, and arguments that were discussed in the readings and in class. I might, for example, ask you something like this: "What does it mean to say that morality is objective? What was one of the main arguments against this view that we discussed in class (no need to present it in numbered-premise format)? What was one objection to that argument we discussed?"

To prepare for the exam, the handouts will be useful. They contain the main theories and arguments we discussed, as well as the main concepts (for instance, the distinction between axiology, normative ethics, applied ethics, and meta-ethics). But familiarity with the handouts won't be enough. For example, although the handouts contain many arguments, they rarely contain the justifications for or the objections to the premises that we discussed in class. So if you don't have good class notes, you probably should find someone who does.