

Instructions: This is a complex exam. Part A is a take home exam; Part B is an in-class exam.

Part A – Take-Home Element

Cumulative Essay Question: 50% of total exam grade – take home element submitted electronically to Canvas. You are to write your answers individually, though you may, of course, discuss these questions with colleagues in the class. More to the point, I encourage you to use the work you have completed in your blog postings as a basis for the answer to this cumulative final exam question.

Paper Format

The allowed formats are .doc and .docx. Lines should be double-spaced. Your name should be written on the first page. Please use page numbers.

When you quote or cite from any source, make sure to indicate the source, informally – but use page numbers.

Deadline: Upload to Canvas by **12:30pm on Wednesday, December 14th by 12:30am, latest**

Essay Question: How do you understand your own ethical relation to the land and/or to non-human creatures?

- In order to answer this question properly, you have to discuss substantively and critically – at a minimum – the following concepts
 - the issue of **anthropocentrism**,
 - the **idea of nature** particularly as it pertains to the **human place in nature**,
 - the concept of **sustainability**,You can, of course, discuss any other topic or issue that you deem relevant *as long as these three core concerns are dealt with in your essay*. The issues you take up can be dealt with sequentially or in a more integrated approach, e.g., as inter-related concepts.
- This exam is meant to be a **critical engagement with the material of the course**. The evaluation of your answer will rest on the following criteria:
 - **richness**
how thoroughly you employ a diverse selection of readings from the course
 - **coherence**
how well you defend your standpoint from potential conflicting views expressed in the readings and avoid inconsistency
 - **precision**
how adequately you represent the arguments in the readings from the course
 - **expression**
how well you articulate yourself grammatically and stylistically
- This is obviously a too-large topic. Consequently, your job in this exam is to be verbally concise, logically precise, and – here's the kicker – genuine to your core beliefs.
- This is not a thesis defense *per se*. So you don't need to provide an opening or formal concluding paragraph. But consider the body of a thesis defense paper as a model for how you present your ideas.

Part B

Post Midterm Question: 50% of the total exam grade – in-class exam; the questions on this element of the exam only cover material since the midterm.

In-class final exam: 1:00pm on Wednesday, December 14th in CB 334 – you'll have 65 minutes to complete this part of the exam.

Instructions: The exam will consist of a five short answer questions and two essay questions. The short answer questions will be taken verbatim from this list. The essay questions will be formed in large part on the basis of the questions listed below. You will be responsible to answer three of the three of the five short answer questions and one of the two essay questions. **I will average the three short answer scores and this will constitute 50% of the grade; the essay will make up the other 50%.**

1. Do George Perkins Marsh's conclusions about the nature of human impacts on the earth's support or controvert the central argument against the restoration thesis by Robert Elliot? Please explain your answer.
2. Explain the distinction that Ralph Waldo Emerson draws between *natura naturata* and *natura naturans*. How, if at all, does this distinction help clarify the idea that the human being is a natural member of the biotic world?
3. Why does Henry David Thoreau argue that "in wildness is preservation of the world?"
4. What are the basic issues and who are the central figures in the conservation/preservation debate?
5. What is the trouble with wilderness according to William Cronon?
6. Is poverty a cause of environmental degradation? Explain how this question is answered by (a) the Brundtland Commission and (b) Guha and Martinez-Alier.
7. Paul Hawken argues that we need to we need to imagine and design a system of sustainable commerce. What are the key features of this re-design? Does the triple-bottom line conception of corporate accounting advanced by John Elkington offer a design plan commensurate with Hawken's? How so, or how not?
8. Where and how well would Wendell Berry's idea of a local economy fit within the sustainability rubric proposed by Yanarella, Klein, and Lancaster? Please explain your answer.
9. Do you think Winona LaDuke would embrace or reject the fundamental proposals of the Brundtland Commission? Please explain your answer.
10. How does Eric Katz expand upon Robert Elliot's argument against the restoration thesis?