

Final Exam Review Guide

**This is meant to be a review guide, not the exam itself. Ultimately, you are accountable for all the key materials in the readings and lectures.**

**Exam will be designed for 2hrs, but you will have the full 3 hrs to finish**

**(PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING TWO UNMARKED BLUEBOOKS FOR EXCHANGE. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE LATE, SINCE TARDINESS MAY DISQUALIFY YOU FROM TAKING THE EXAM)**

**REVIEW SESSION: MONDAY, DECEMBER 15 @ 8:00 PM, CENTER HALL 113**

Part I. Matching Terms (30%)

You need to be familiar with the historical context and significance of the following names and terms from your readings and lectures. Be sure you are able to address the appropriate “who?” “what?” “where?” and “when?”, and most importantly, “why?” issues associated with each one.

**Matching Terms** questions will be drawn from this guide. This list, in conjunction with the midterm review guide, is also very useful for preparing for your **cumulative essay**.

**Key Names & Terms**

**Jesus and Mary Magdalene**

Parable of the Good Samaritan  
Temptations in the wilderness  
Sermon on the Mount  
View on Ten Commandments  
“Father who is in secret”  
Pharisees  
Nazarene Sect  
Authority of Jesus over Jewish laws  
Peter and the male apostles  
Mary Magdalene  
Gnosticism  
Esoteric teachings  
Gospel of Thomas  
Meaning of “be passers-by”  
Gospel of Mary  
Mary’s leadership

**Muhammad and Khadija**

Pre-Islamic Ka’ba and All’at  
Retreat on Mount Hira  
Angel Gabriel  
*Jinns*  
“Quraysh of the Outside”  
Khadija  
“The Seal of the Prophets”  
Abraham as Muslim  
Jesus in the *Qu’ran*  
Friday as day of prayer

View on polygamy  
Rules of marriage consent  
A’isha  
Abu Talib  
The Hijra 622  
*Umma*  
Jews of Medina  
Change in *qibla*  
The Five Pillars  
*Kalima* or the Creed  
The dual meaning of *Jihad*

**Ohiyesa and Old Man Coyote**

“Old Man Coyote Makes the World” (Crow)  
“The Spirit Wife” (Zuni)  
“Vision Quest” (Brule Sioux)  
Role of humility in quest  
Gluscabi’s “game bag”  
Cherokee word for land “*eloheh*”  
Ohiyesa’s “The Ways of the Spirit”  
Role of silence  
Attitude towards speech  
Approach to prayer

**Laozi and Zhuangzi**

Philosophical Daoism (Taoism)  
Laozi (Lao-tzu)  
Principle of Reversal  
Function of weakness

Uncarved Block  
Taoist view on rituals and taboos  
Non-action or *Wuwei*  
Zhuangzi (Chuang-tzu)  
Relativity of values  
Dream of the Butterfly  
Fasting of the Mind  
The Useless Shu Tree  
Butcher Ting allegory

**Dogen and Kamo no Chomei**

Zen or Chan Buddhism  
The “Flower Sermon”  
Bodhidharma  
“Pacifying the Mind”  
*Gong-ans* or *Koans*  
“One-finger” koan  
Dogen  
“Life is evanescent like a dew-drop”  
Kamo no Chomei  
Symbolism of his hut  
“The view has no owner”

**Augustine and Luther**

Allegory of the pear tree

Thrill of transgressing  
Study in Carthage  
Professional success in Milan  
Meaning of “*Confessions*”  
“Fog of lust”  
In love with “love”  
“Land of famine”  
Rejection of Manichean past  
Power of redemption  
Luther on free-will  
Luther vs. Erasmus  
Works vs. faith

**Montaigne and Voltaire**

Deism  
Religious tolerance  
Need for “inventing God”  
Social aversion to death  
Egotism and longevity  
Death as source of empowerment  
Of freedom  
Of humility  
Of wisdom  
Death as genuine “last act”

Part II. Long Passage Identifications (20%)

**Three** passages from the following selection will be included on the final. You will choose **two** to write on. In your response, you must identify the historical or religious context to which each passage pertains (e.g. speaker, subject, occasion, purpose, general time period). More importantly, you need to explain its relevance to its respective tradition. Evidence of **independent** and **compelling** insight on the readings is strongly recommended. Each response should be at least a full paragraph in length. **Text references will not be provided on the actual final.**

- 1) “Too much store is sure to end in immense loss. Knowing contentment you will suffer no humiliation; knowing when to stop you will be free from danger; you will thereby endure.” (Laozi *Daodejing*)
- 2) “When the angels said, ‘Mary, God gives thee good tidings of a Word from Him whose name is Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary; high honoured shall he be in the world and the next, near stationed to God. He shall speak to men in the cradle, and of age, and righteous he shall be.’” (A sura from the *Qur’an*)
- 3) “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” (“Gospel of Matthew”)
- 4) “Speaking from no particular direction, as if it came from different places, it said: ‘See here, young man, there are other spots you could have picked; there are other hills around here. Why don’t you go there to cry for a dream? You disturbed us all night, all us

creatures, animals, and birds; you even kept the trees awake. We couldn't sleep. Why should you cry here? You're a brash young man, not yet ready or worthy to receive a vision." ("The Vision Quest" Brule Sioux tale)

- 5) "Ever since I fled the world and became a priest, I have known neither hatred nor fear. I leave my span of days for Heaven to determine, neither clinging to life nor begrudging its end. My body is like a drifting cloud—I ask for nothing, I want nothing. My greatest joy is a quiet nap; my only desire for this life is to see the beauties of the seasons." (Kamo no Chomei "An Account of My Hut")
- 6) "Man, who is an animal, about five feet high, is certainly a very inconsiderable part of the creation; but one of those hardly visible beings says to others of the same kind inhabiting another spot of the globe: Harken to me, for the God of all these worlds has enlightened me. There are about nine hundred million of us little insects who inhabit the earth, but my ant-hill is alone cherished by God, who holds all the rest in horror and detestation; those who live with me upon my spot will alone be happy, and the rest eternally wretched." (Voltaire "On Universal Toleration")

### Part III. Cumulative Essay (50%)

In his essay, "That to Study Philosophy is to Learn to Die," Michel de Montaigne makes the bold claim that "all the wisdom and reasoning in the world do in the end conclude in this point: to teach us not to fear to die." In other words, Montaigne believes the pursuit of philosophy or the cultivation of wisdom ultimately has one main purpose—that is, to teach us to face death at any given moment with tranquility, equanimity, and acceptance.

Since our MMW 121 course this past quarter has focused on the universal search for wisdom found in various philosophical and religious traditions of the pre-modern world (pre-18<sup>th</sup> century C.E.), we can use the rest of the course material to test Montaigne's hypothesis. Which figures or traditions among those we have studied in this course would best attest to Montaigne's general claim "that to study philosophy is to learn to die"?

In your final essay, choose **FOUR** figures or traditions from the following list that you believe would best illustrate or support Montaigne's claim. Focus *specifically* on their respective views on human mortality and the imminence of death. This is not an occasion to convey your personal opinions; it is an opportunity to demonstrate how well you understand the course material and its relevance to this *specific* theme.

Choices to consider for your essay:

Gilgamesh, Book of Job, the Buddha, Ibn al-Wardi, Confucius, *Bhagavad-Gita*, Socrates, Native American myths, Zhuangzi, Dogen

Total length of essay: Roughly 5 bluebook pages

- At least two specific textual references to relevant readings are required for each of the **four** choices (direct quotes or page citations not necessary, but refer to specific examples or passages from the reading: e.g. "In the example of him stealing pears, Augustine demonstrates...")
- Again, do not respond from your own personal opinion on the theme. You will be evaluated on how accurately and clearly you convey the vantage point of each of your three choices