

Ethical Preamble:

I understand that cheating is a serious offence.

“As members of the University Community, Students have an obligation to act with academic integrity. Any Student who engages in Academic Misconduct in relation to a University Matter will be subject to discipline.” (2.4 - Student Academic Misconduct Procedure).

By beginning this exam, you have agreed with this statement, and have accepted (and will honour) its obligation.

PHIL 2290 ETHICS AND SOCIETY FW 201920 FINAL EXAM

INSTRUCTOR: P. DENTON

VALUE OF EXAM: 35% OF COURSE GRADE

NO AIDS OR TRANSLATION DEVICES PERMITTED.

PLEASE ANSWER ALL FOUR QUESTIONS

Students are expected to spend no more than 3 hours writing their answers to this exam, which must be submitted as a Word document or PDF file in the drop box on UMLearn.

Section A: Current Issues Essay Question

15% of course grade

In your own words, and *without* research, what do you think about the response of the Canadian government, the Manitoba government, and the University of Manitoba, to the COVID-19 pandemic so far?

What should be done better or differently next time?

Section B: Short essay questions**10% of course grade (2 X 5)**

The following quotations are taken from the required textbook, Joseph R. Desjardins, *Business, Ethics, and the Environment: Imagining a Sustainable Future*:

For each quotation, in a short essay, state whether you agree or disagree with Desjardins, discuss its significance in the context of the part of the book where the passage is found, and give reasons for your answer.

2. “Ecological economics argues that natural resources too often are treated as income instead of as capital.”

3. “Business has more of a responsibility for consumer behavior and consumption patterns than might first appear. A sustainable business must address the issue of consumption head-on. Business must take responsibility both for the role it plays in shaping consumer demand and for the choices available to fill that demand.”

Section C: Cumulative Essay Question**10% of course grade (1 X 10)**

4. Consider the following scenario: In the face of the worst social and environmental crisis in decades after the COVID-19 pandemic, a coalition government has been formed that can address the urgent needs of all Canadians.

You have been asked (as the expert in ethics and society) to make one of the following topics the new priority policy issue for your government. Your task is to outline what the new law should be and why, in order to persuade the Cabinet to agree:

- a) Compulsory national service for two years after high school (18-20) followed by two years of free post-secondary education;
- b) \$400 per tonne carbon tax, with all revenue used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- c) Limits to public health care support for people who are overweight or smokers.
- d) Mandatory 14-day quarantine in government-run facilities at the airport or at border crossings for anyone returning to Canada from abroad, including the United States.

Select ONE of these issues and write a policy brief to persuade the government members at the next caucus meeting, giving reasons to justify your position on the issue you have selected.

End of Exam**Have a safe and healthy summer!**