

# MIDTERM STUDY GUIDE

Ted Sider  
Intro Philosophy

- Monday, October 30, 11:30 (in class)
- Closed-book, closed notes
- Worth 30% of your course grade

This exam will cover the material in the sections on the existence of God and free will and determinism (in addition to the introductory material on philosophy at the very beginning of the semester). Please arrive on-time, since we will start at 11:30 sharp.

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, word-for-word, the numbered-premise arguments on the handouts. However, it is important that you be familiar with those arguments, as well as the main concepts, theories, objections, and replies that were discussed in the readings and in class. I might, for example, ask you something like this: "What does Chishom's Libertarianism say? What was one of the main arguments against Chisholm's Libertarianism that we discussed in class (no need to present it in numbered-premise format)?"

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 official statements of hard determinism, libertarianism, and soft determinism). But familiarity with the handouts won't be enough. For example, although the handouts contain many arguments, they usually don't contain the justifications for, or the objections to, the premises—we discussed these justifications and objections in class. So if you don't have good class notes, you probably should find someone who does.