**Midterm Review Sheet – Introductory Ethics, Fall 2018**

Six of the questions below will appear on the exam. You will have to answer five. Each question should be answered in your own words and in at **least** four sentences. Some questions have two parts, so read them carefully.

1. Ruth Benedict argues that “the majority of mankind readily take any shape that is presented to them” (38). Why does she think this claim supports cultural relativism?
2. What is one reason Mary Midgley gives to convince us that we ought to reject moral isolationism (which is a form of cultural relativism)?
3. Simon Blackburn rejects both moral realism and cultural relativism. He calls himself a “quasi-realist” about morality. Why does hethink moral relativism should be rejected?
4. Regardless of your personal religious beliefs, imagine for the sake of this question that there is a God, like the Christian God, ruling the universe. According to that God, murder is wrong. Carmen, an atheist, believes that murder is wrong, too. She would never kill anyone and in fact advocates against many kinds of killing – she is against both war and the death penalty. What would William Lane-Craig have to say about Carmen?
5. Louise Antony believes the position that God is not necessary for objective morality is a better position for **theists** to hold than Lane-Craig’s position. Why?
6. Gianna does the right thing even though it is hard for her to do it. Leo does the right thing and he enjoys doing it. Who, on Aristotle’s account, is a better person and why?
7. Explain why Aristotle believes incontinence (*akrasia*) is, at least seemingly, puzzling.
8. Explain what Aristotle thinks a complete friendship is like.
9. Imagine the following scenario: Maven has promised Malcom that she will help him move. However, when moving day comes, she doesn’t feel like helping and decides she’s not going to show up. Before Maven can flake, Malcom calls and tells her he doesn’t need her help after all. Based on your knowledge of his ethical theory, what would Abelard have to say about this case?
10. Abelard claims that God and the Devil do the same thing, and yet God does not sin in doing it while the Devil does. What is the thing he’s talking about, and why does he believe the Devil sins while God doesn’t?
11. Explain Kant’s distinction between acting from duty and acting in accordance/conformity with duty.
12. **Using Kant’s categorical imperative**, analyze whether or not the U.S. should have dropped the atomic bomb in WWII.