

PHI 234: *Business Ethics*
Waggle section

MIDTERM

Instructions: Write one informative essay, approximately 2 ½ to 4 pages long over one of the prompts listed below. Please structure your essay. Have a clear thesis, and a list of topics to be discussed in the body of the essay. Preferably, you should have a conclusion that summarizes the overall argument of the essay.

Prompt 1.

In Chapter 3, we discussed the ontological and moral status of corporations. First, explain why corporations seem to have the status of being a moral agent and explain some of the difficulties involved with comparing corporations to human beings. Consider whether the moral status of corporation is more like political entities (cities, states, etc.) or more like human beings. Then, given that corporations can be considered to be moral agents, discuss at least two problems we face in determining the moral obligations of corporations in light of the assumption that their main reason to exist is to make a profit.

Prompt 2.

In Chapter 4, we discussed the hypothesis that advertising is morally responsible when it conveys accurate and needed information to consumers about products in order that consumers can make informed decisions. Consider at least two problems with this hypothesis. In light of these problems, how seriously should we take the hypothesis that advertising is morally responsible. Provide examples to support your answer.

Note: You have the whole class period to write out your response in the blue book. Time will be called at 10:50 am.