

## **PHILOSOPHY 101**

### *Introduction to Asian Philosophy*

Fall 2018

#### *Final Exam Essay Assignment*

Due Monday, December 10 (1:50 PM)

Write a 4-5 page essay on the following topic. The paper should be double-spaced with proper 1 inch margins. Upload the essay to Laulima as an attached Word document or PDF file.

#### *Zen and the Ecological Crisis*

What is the distinctive philosophy of Zen Buddhism and how did this philosophy develop from both Indian Mayahana Buddhism and Daoism in China? What are some of the main points in the development of Zen from the teachings of Bodhidharma and the story of Huineng in *The Platform Sutra* in the Chinese tradition of Chan Buddhism, and then in the philosophy of Dogen, the Japanese Zen master? How does the contemporary Zen teacher Thich Nhat Hanh express the fundamental teaching of Zen and its relevance today in thinking about the current ecological crisis?

### **Grading Rubric**

#### **1) Writing (20%)**

Grammar and spelling, composition and style. Your essay should be well organized. There should be an introduction, development of a theme, and a conclusion.

#### **2) Content (50%)**

The essay should reflect an adequate understanding of the texts. Your exposition of the texts should include some citations from the primary text material. All quotes should be properly marked within the text and must include a reference to the text cited.

#### **3) Reflection (30%)**

Your own thoughtful reflections on the topic.