Take home final exam for TESP 84 Winter 2012
Environmental Justice in the Catholic Imagination
Due by email 6 am on Thursday, March 15 to KDwarner@gmail.com
Name your file 12.84.f.Surname. Put this in the subject line as well.

Your final exam should demonstrate what you have learned in this class about spirituality, and describe its role in fostering sustainability in your life, vocation, and the world. We have discussed spirituality as the study of the human experience of the spiritual, as well one’s own spiritual beliefs and practices. Here is the overarching question to address:

• As a result of this class, what do you understand spirituality to be, and what role do you believe it can play in fostering sustainability in your life, vocation, and the world?

There are several specific dimensions you must address in your answer. This assignment is intended to be integrative, but also provide you the opportunity to describe how your understanding of spirituality, including your own, has changed as a result of this class. I will evaluate the essay by how well you explain the concepts from this class, and how you articulate them with your own emerging vocation.

To get you started, I recommend you read chapters 9 and 10 of Engaged Spiritual Life, which address vocation from a Buddhist perspective. Do some brainstorming about the presentation in these chapters, and the questions raised, and make some notes. Then show your climate justice iMovie to at least two friends. Ask them to give you constructive critical feedback on how you present spirituality in it, and how you propose spirituality to assist in promoting climate justice. You should ask them to give you specific feedback, more than “I like” or “I don’t like.” That will not help you write about this in this final.

Now draft an outline that responds to these questions. Your final essay may respond to these as specific prompts (e.g., a paragraph or a page about each).
1. How is spirituality related to religion? (a strong answer will incorporate some elements of Schneider’s essay as well as CFC or ESL; recall that this is a religious studies course, and that you will need to demonstrate understanding of religious ideas)
2. How could spirituality foster sustainability? (refer to CFC or ESL)
3. How might it help promote climate justice? (refer to Eaarth, and your iMovie, and your friends response)
4. What role has spirituality played in your own discernment of your vocation, and how might it do so into the future? (many students are still trying to determine what their vocation is, so don’t write about what you plan to do, but rather, how spirituality will/ will not play a role in your discernment process)

I expect that to address the overarching question fully, you should plan to write 3 single spaced pages. I recommend you outline your answer, or draft answers to the 4 parts individually, but then return to the beginning and write a 1 paragraph introduction and conclusion to a coherent essay. Be sure to edit, proofread and spell check your answer.
If you need more help getting started, consider the following.
• Explain what you have learned about your vocation, and what you would like to it be in
  5 years. Describe what you have learned about your vocation, and how you could become
  who you want to be.
• What have you learned about the key elements of your own vocation in life thus far? If
  anything in this class helped in this, please explain.
• What have you learned about the processes of vocational discernment?
• Joanna Macy described 3 types of transformation, reviewed on p 206 of ESL. Which of
  her strategies are you most likely to use in your vocation and why?
• Think about the 3 vocational questions (ASV p 45). What community or communities do
  you imagine might put your gifts to use?
You are welcome to discuss aspects of this with others, but only you may write the text. I
encourage you to use your personal values and imagination to describe your vocational
vision, but those alone will not result in a superior grade.