

MID-TERM EXAMINATION STUDY QUESTIONS

Exam given Monday, April 4th

Your mid-term examination will be divided into two sections. The first section will consist of two questions that come from this study sheet, and you will choose one to answer for a total of 30 points. The second section will consist of two questions that come from this study sheet, and you will answer one for a total of 70 points. This mid-term examination is worth 25% of your course grade. Bring a pen or pencil to the exam. **I am interested in what you think, so do not study with other people in preparation for this exam. I will consider it an honor code violation if you study with classmates from either section of this course.**

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Your answers to any of these questions will be evaluated on the following basis:

1. **Organization and thoughtfulness:** Is your essay well organized around a central theme? Does your essay have an effective introduction and conclusion? Are subsections of your essay organized around clear topic sentences? Have you tried to think about issues raised by the question or have you simply tried to regurgitate as much information as possible without much reflection on its significance?
2. **Use of supporting evidence:** Does your essay demonstrate a thorough knowledge of relevant facts presented in **both** lectures and readings? Have you tried to make connections between points addressed at various times in the lectures and the readings that might be relevant to the question you are answering? Does your answer tell what you know as well as show what you know?
3. **Clarity of expression:** Have you expressed your ideas in clear language? Minor errors of grammar or spelling can be overlooked on an in-class exam, but confused or garbled sentences detract from your ability to communicate effectively what you think you know.

Part I: Reading Essay Questions

Two of these reading questions will appear on the mid-term examination, and you will write about one for a total of 30 points.

1. Explain how Woodrow Wilson's "Fourteen Points" summarize the principles for which Wilson believed the First World War was fought.
2. What did the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944 (the G.I. Bill) do for World War II veterans?
3. Do you think World War II veterans were treated like victims as they re-entered American society?

Part II: Essay Questions

Two of these essay questions will appear on the mid-term examination, and you will write about it for a total of 70 points.

1. As the eighth anniversary of the beginning of the war in Iraq has passed, the Obama Administration has decided to re-evaluate U. S. foreign policy, especially as events in Libya become more volatile and the war in Afghanistan continues. You are working as an intern in the State Department and have been asked to provide some historical analysis in this re-evaluation process. Using **either** the Spanish American War and its aftermath **or** the United States' role in World War One and the Treaty of Versailles, explain to the president why we got involved in the conflict you have chosen to focus on, what were the costs and benefits of doing so, and how did the country's position in the world change as a result. Based on the US experience in either one of these conflicts, what is the most important thing you think the president needs to know about the American involvement in world affairs either in the late 1890s or after 1917? Explain.
2. Woodrow Wilson was the first American president who looked outward and saw the United States' future tied to the rest of the world. In 1919 he traveled to France to participate in the Paris Peace Conference where he tried to construct a lasting peace. It took six and a half months to hammer out a peace settlement. Write an essay historically analyzing Wilson's approach to ending World War One. What were the ideological, economic, and strategic points he tried to accomplish as a peacemaker? How did the allies—Great Britain and France—respond to his plans? How well did the Treaty of Versailles create a "lasting peace"? What were the legacies of this Peace Conference for Europe and for the United States? How do you think President Wilson should be remembered? Explain.

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3. Which had a greater long-term impact on America, the Great Depression/New Deal **or** World War II? Make sure you include in your explanation the economic, political, cultural, and social aspects of either event to support your answer and thoroughly explain your decision.