

FINAL EXAMINATION STUDY QUESTIONS

Your final examination will be divided into two sections. The first section will consist of two essay questions focusing on material since the mid-term examination that will 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 long essay questions focusing on material from the entire course that will come from this study sheet, and you will choose one to answer, for a total of 70 points. This final examination is worth 30% of your course grade. **Bring a pen or pencil to the exam.** Your final exam is scheduled for **Monday, May 2nd from 9:00-12 noon** in our regular classroom. I am interested in discovering what **you** have learned throughout this semester, therefore, **do not prepare for this exam by studying with anyone else. I will consider that a violation of the Oxford College Honor Code.**

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?
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 intend to convey.

Part I: Essay Question since the mid-term examination

Two of these questions will appear on the final exam and you will answer one for a total of 30 points.

- 1.) Why did Junius Scales join the Communist Party, what did he do as a member of the Communist Party, and how do you explain why he was imprisoned for his party activism?
- 2.) Why were fatigue, sorrow, and stoicism the standard warrior images of the Korean War?
- 3.) Why did members of the Lowndes County Christian Movement of Human Rights decide not to operate within the Democratic or Republican Parties and instead form a third party, the Lowndes County Freedom Organization, also known as the Black Panther Party?

Part II: Cumulative Essay Question:

What Does It Mean to Be an American and How has that Changed Over Time?

Two of these essay questions will appear on the final exam, and you will answer **one** for a total of 70 points.

- 1.) Beginning with Barry Goldwater's run for the presidency in 1964, it is common to hear people complain about the size and power of the federal government. Write an essay that traces the growing power and expansion of the federal government from Reconstruction to the 1960s. Make sure to include all the many ways the federal government grew in its power and reach. How did it begin to touch individual American's lives in new ways? Do you think it is realistic to expect that the federal government could ever be as small as it was prior to Reconstruction? Explain.
- 2.) When George Washington left the White House he warned Americans not to get involved in the problems of the Old World. As a result, the United States has tended to be isolationist in its foreign policy until the twentieth century. Write an essay explaining how the United States went from being a regional power in the Western Hemisphere to being a superpower. Make sure to include all of the events that explain this growing involvement in world affairs from the 1890s through the 1950s and the reasons why the U.S. got involved in the way it did. Do you think it was a wise decision to participate in these world affairs? Explain your answer.
- 3.) African Americans have been residents in America since the first colony of Jamestown in the early 1600s, yet they did not gain full citizenship rights until the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act in 1965. Write an essay tracing the history of African Americans and their struggle for civil rights from Reconstruction through 1966. Which part of the civil rights movement do you think was

the most essential in reaching the goal of full citizenship in American society for black people— aspects on the federal, state, or local level? Explain your answer.