

DIRECTIONS

- *Two* of these five review questions will appear on your exam. Your essay may address *either one*.
- To receive full credit, your exam essay should be written in well-organized paragraphs composed of complete sentences expressed in standard English.
 - **BEGIN YOUR ESSAY WITH AN INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH (SIMPLY REWRITE THE ESSAY QUESTION IN YOUR OWN WORDS). THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD LIST ALL THE MAJOR POINTS THAT YOUR ESSAY WILL ADDRESS.**
 - **CONTINUE WITH A BODY OF PARAGRAPHS (ANSWERING EACH OF THE MAJOR POINTS RAISED IN THE ESSAY QUESTION).**
 - **END WITH A CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH (SUMMARIZING ALL OF THE MAJOR POINTS COVERED).**
- You may *not* use any notes or dictionaries to assist you in your essay writing. However, I *will* be happy to answer any questions you may have about spelling, punctuation, grammar, and syntax.
- You will *not* need to bring a "blue book" -- a test booklet will be provided. I prefer that you write your essay in *pencil* so that you can more neatly make changes while writing or correct any errors that you discover with proof reading.

STUDY HINTS

- **INSTEAD OF TRYING TO MEMORIZE A COMPLETE ESSAY FOR ANY OF THE FIVE TOPICS, MEMORIZE AN OUTLINE.** Locate the section of the chapter outline that addresses each of the five topics and construct an outline for each. Review your textbook readings and class notes to expand the detail in each essay's outline.
- The minimum number of essay outlines you should prepare is four. If you prepare for less than four, you run the risk of not having prepared for at least one of the two essay topics that will appear on the exam.
- Make sure that each outline addresses each point raised in its respective essay question. Each of the five essay questions raises two to four major points.
- The first thing to do during the exam is to choose one of the two essay topics. The second thing to do is to write down as complete an outline as possible -- making sure that it addresses every major point raised. **IT IS A BIG MISTAKE TO BEGIN TO WRITE YOUR ESSAY WITHOUT FIRST WRITING A GOOD OUTLINE.**

GRADING

- The essay portion of the exam is worth a total of 50 points. A maximum of 40 points will be awarded for *content*. **IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS EVERY POINT RAISED IN THE ESSAY TOPIC YOU SELECT THAN IT IS TO COVER FEWER POINTS IN GREATER DETAIL.**
- A maximum of 10 points will be awarded for *presentation*. **MAKE SURE TO BUDGET ADEQUATE TIME TO THOROUGHLY PROOF READ YOUR ESSAY BEFORE TURNING IT IN.** Significant points will be subtracted for obvious errors such as subject-verb disagreement, confusion of plurals and possessives, and misspelling of commonly used words.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

- (Chapter 10)** Discuss the following points concerning **religion and politics among African-Americans, Latinos, and Mormons**.
 - Discuss the relative strengths and weaknesses of African-American Protestants in the U.S. political system.
 - Discuss the relative strengths and weaknesses of Latino-Americans in the U.S. political system.
 - Discuss the relative strengths and weaknesses of Muslim-Americans in the U.S. political system.
 - Discuss the relative strengths and weaknesses of Mormons in the U.S. political system.
- (Chapter 11)** Discuss the following points concerning **religion, politics, and homosexuals in the U.S.**
 - How are gay-rights issues framed differently by activists and the mass public? Describe how Wald and Calhoun-Brown summarize the duality of U.S. public opinion on homosexual issues.
 - Wald and Calhoun-Brown classify U.S. religious denominations into three categories in terms of homosexual issues: liberal, moderate, and conservative. For each of the three categories, give the following information:
 - Which denominations are in that category?
 - How do the denominations in that category deal with homosexual issues? Explain their positions in terms of institutional interests, as well as objective and subjective social-group status.
- (Chapter 12)** Describe and explain the case that can be made *for and against* religious influence in politics by addressing the following points.
 - What arguments can be made that religious *values* are crucial to a successful democracy?
 - What arguments can be made that religious *institutions* are crucial to a successful democracy?
 - Describe the arguments about religious extremism that are made by critics of religious influence in politics.
 - Identify the theorist who gives *styles of thinking* explanation for religious extremism. Describe this theory.
 - Identify the theorist who gives an *institutional interest* explanation for religious extremism. Describe this theory.
 - Identify the theorist who gives a *social environment* explanation for religious extremism. Describe this theory.