# Senior Seminar in Political Science Final Exam Review Questions – Shively's Chapters 9-18

### **DIRECTIONS**

- Two of these 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 (one paragraph for 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 proofreading.

## **STUDY HINTS**

- INSTEAD OF TRYING TO MEMORIZE A COMPLETE ESSAY FOR ANY OF THE REVIEW TOPICS, MEMORIZE AN OUTLINE. Locate the section of the chapter outline that addresses each of the review 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 one less than the number of review topics. If you prepare for less than that, 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 review topics raises five or six 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 you write 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
  PROOFREAD 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. Don'T
  FORGET TO INCLUDE AN INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH AND A CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH.

#### **REVIEW TOPICS**

- 1. (Shively, Chapters 9 & 10) Discuss constitutions and elections by addressing each of the following points:
  - a. Define **constitution** and identify the four major topics typically addressed in a country's constitution.
  - b. The U.S. Constitution allows **martial law** to be imposed under what two circumstances? Discuss the two instances in which the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the wartime imposition of **martial law**. What two limits on the imposition of martial law did the Court pronounce?
  - c. Identify the defining characteristics of **winner-take-all electoral systems**. What countries typically use this system? Summarize the advantages and disadvantages of this type of electoral system.
  - d. Identify the defining characteristics of **proportional-representation electoral systems**. Summarize the advantages and disadvantages of this type of electoral system. Compare the two major variations of this type of electoral system. Name at least one country that uses each.
  - e. How do elections operate in countries that mix winner-take-all and PR systems? Name at least one country that uses such a **mixed electoral system**.
- 2. (Shively, Chapters 11, 12, & 13) Discuss political movements, political interest groups, and political parties by addressing each of the following points:
  - a. Define and distinguish between political movements, political interest groups, and political parties.
  - b. Identify the political sociologist who first explained what caused some countries to develop **two-party systems** while most developed **multi-party systems**. Discuss his explanation. When was this first published?
  - c. Compare the nature of political parties in two-party and multi-party systems in terms of their **operation**, **internal homogeneity** and **ideological and programmatic distinctiveness**.
  - d. What did James Madison identify as "... the most common and durable source of factions [interest groups] ..."? In what document did he make this statement? What was the larger purpose of this and related documents he and Hamilton and Jay authored?
  - e. Identify, compare, and contrast the time periods covered by each of Samuel Huntington's **three waves of democratization**. Identify and describe Robert Dahl's **three prerequisites of democracy** that have contributed to those three waves of democratization.
- 3. **(Shively, Chapters 14 & 15)** Discuss **parliamentary** and **presidential democracies** by addressing each of the following points:
  - a. Contrast the **structure** of parliamentary and presidential democracies.
  - b. Contrast the **operation** of parliamentary and presidential democracies.
  - c. Discuss the relative **advantages** and **disadvantages** of parliamentary and presidential democracies.
  - d. Name at least one country that has each combination of structures: 1) parliamentary & unitary, 2) parliamentary & federal, 3) presidential & unitary, and 4) presidential and federal (other than the U.S.).
  - e. An **independent judiciary** with the power of judicial review is more common in which parliamentary or presidential democracies? Why?
- 4. (Shively, Chapters 16 & 17) Discuss bureaucracy and the courts by addressing each of the following points:
  - a. Define bureaucracy in: 1) the **private sector** and 2) the **public sector**. Define and discuss the significance of **bureaucratic discretionary authority**.
  - b. Describe **the growth of public-sector bureaucracy** in the U.S. Describe the reform goal of each of the following: **Pendleton Act, sunshine laws, sunset laws, competitive-bidding laws**.
  - c. Describe the *origins* of **case-law** and **code-law systems**.
  - d. Contrast the *basic assumptions* of **case-law** and **code-law systems**.
  - e. Describe the *origin* and *basic assumptions* of the **Sharia**.
- 5. (Shively, Chapter 18) Discuss global politics by addressing each of the following points:
  - a. Define each of the following: politics, international politics, global politics.
  - b. Define **IGO** and **NGO**. Give at least two examples of each.
  - c. Describe the major features of the international political system within each of the following eras:
    - i. 1600-1913
    - ii. 1914-1945
    - iii. 1946-1990
    - iv. 1991- present