

Senior Seminar in Political Science

Midterm Exam Review Questions – Shively's Introduction & Chapters 1 - 8

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 four to 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. **(Introduction to the Course, Section VI.)** Discuss **political ideology** by addressing each of the following points:
 - a. What are the names of the four **mainstream political ideologies**? What three common beliefs are held by all *mainstream* political ideologues that make them different from their *extremist* alternatives?
 - b. What are the names of the four **extremist political ideologies**? What three common beliefs are held by all *extremist* ideologues that make them different from their *mainstream* alternatives?
 - c. What are the **three most important values or ends of government** that define each of the four mainstream political ideologies? Which of the three basic value(s) does each of the four mainstream political ideologies advocate that government has the greatest responsibility to advance or protect?
 - d. Which of the four mainstream ideologies has a **consistently positive view** of a strong national government? Which of the four mainstream ideologies has a **consistently negative view** of a strong national government? Which of the four mainstream ideologies has a **mixed view** of a strong national government?
 - e. A **class war** involves disagreements about the proper balancing of what two values? A **culture war** involves disagreements about the proper balancing of what two values?
2. **(Shively, Chapters 1 & 2)** Define or identify and discuss each of the following **basic terms**:
 - a. **Politics, power, force, persuasion, and authority.**
 - b. **Power elites and plural elites** and their seminal theorists.
 - c. The **third** and the **fourth faces of power** and their seminal theorists.
 - d. The **state**, the **nation**, and **sovereignty**.
 - e. **Classical liberalism, American liberalism, American conservatism, neoliberalism and neoconservatism.**
 - f. **Marxist socialism v. parliamentary socialism.**
3. **(Shively, Chapters 3 & 4)** Discuss **the modern state and its policies** by addressing each of the following points:
 - a. Define and give examples of **colonialism** in pre-modern and more recent history (15th - 19th c.).
 - b. Define and distinguish between **nation, state, nationalism, and patriotism**. Identify a separatist **nation** within a troubled **state** in each of the following world regions: North America, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia.
 - c. Define **supranational organization, IGO, NGO, MNC, and globalization**. What social, economic, political, technological, and environmental factors have contributed to the latter?
 - d. Define **Third World**. Describe the most important economic and political transformations that have changed this set of countries since World War II.
 - e. Distinguish between **socialist, free-market, and mixed economies**; identify a seminal theorist of each.. [cf., Ch. 6 readings & outline]
4. **(Shively, Chapters 5 & 6)** Discuss **economic and political policymaking** by addressing each of the following points:
 - a. Define and give several examples of political **patronage** and **preferments**.
 - b. Distinguish between and give several examples of **honest graft** and **dishonest graft**. Name the politician that originated the distinction.
 - c. Define **Keynesian economics**.
 - d. Define **procedural due process** and individual **rights**. What is the scope of the latter?
 - e. Define and distinguish between **incremental** and **innovative policymaking**.
 - f. Define **externalities**. Distinguish between and give several examples of **positive** and **negative externalities**.
5. **(Shively, Chapters 7 & 8)** Discuss **the role of political culture & personality in democracies & autocracies** by addressing each of the following points:
 - a. Define **democracy** and **autocracy** and distinguish between the **authoritarian** and **totalitarian** forms of the latter.
 - b. Identify the key traits of the **authoritarian** and **democratic personalities**. Name at least one seminal theorist of each.
 - c. Define **social capital** and distinguish between its **bonding** and **bridging** forms. Which is more important to a pluralistic democracy; why?
 - d. Define **political efficacy** and distinguish between its **internal** and **external** forms.
 - e. Define **political culture** and distinguish between its **subject, mass, and civic** forms. Which form(s) of political culture tends to be associated with autocratic regimes and which with democracies?
 - f. Define **political socialization** and distinguish between its **life-cycle** and **periodic** forms.