

POL 340 – Politics In AIS

Fall 2007 - Exam 2

Instructions:

This is a take-home exam. You must answer **SIX** questions (out of ten). Your answers should be complete and carefully considered. Answers do not have a formal page limit, but typical answers are 1-2 typed, single spaced pages. If you start getting past 2 single spaced pages you are probably writing more than you need to. Each answer is worth 10 points.

All exams must be typed. You may use any standard and easily legible font (Times Roman, Arial, Courier, etc.) and the font size should be *no smaller than 12 point*. You may single space, double space, or any other space you like. I recommend single spaced answers as they use the least paper and have the smallest environmental footprint, as well as making my backpack lighter when I have to carry the exams home. Answers will be graded on their ability to apply the material from the course lectures and readings to the questions in a way that demonstrates that you both know the information and can think critically about its application to the world. Emphasis will be placed on your ability to connect the key ideas of the course to actual historical events and to combine the two in a clear and concise argument. In writing your answers you will be expected to apply the vocabulary we have used thus far in the course and to show clear and direct connections between the ideas you present and the course lectures AND readings. Any quotes from the text should be cited by placing the author's name and page number in parenthesis following the quote. There is no need to include a bibliography unless you use sources other than those assigned in the course.

This is a take-home exam. It is expected that it will be proofread and corrected for basic errors, including basic errors of fact. While I can tolerate some grammatical and spelling errors, they get annoying after a while and repeated errors will result in lost points. Basic errors of fact (such as putting WWI in the wrong century) will be considered to be a demonstration that you do not know the information and significant points will be deducted.

You may ask questions regarding the exam via email. If I haven't gotten back to you in 24 hours, assume I didn't get your email and send it again. My email treats emails without a subject heading or with spelling errors in common words as spam and deletes them without ever showing them to me, so please include POL361 in the subject line when you ask me a question. If you wish to discuss your exam before you turn it in, please feel free to bring a working copy of your answer or answers (I will look at whole exams or single answers) to my office hours. If you can't make office hours, we can schedule an appointment.

The exam is due by 4pm on November 5, 2007. If you do not turn in the exam during class on the 5th, you must put the exam in my mailbox in the Political Science Department Office (Social Sciences 315) **before** 4pm. Be sure to get the right mailbox. There are two Professor Dixon's. My mailbox is on the counter in the mailbox area. Don't ask the department staff to date stamp your exam. Department policy is not to date stamp exams or papers. **ONLY HARD COPY EXAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** *You may not submit the exam in any electronic format.* **Electronic submissions will not be accepted.** I will pick up all exams submitted to the Political Science Department office (Social Sciences 315) at 4pm. Exams submitted at 4:01pm or later will be considered late. Remember: I must receive the hard copy version of the exam by the deadline or the exam will be considered late regardless of emailed or other electronic copies sent to me. For each business day late, the exam grade will be lowered by one letter grade (6 points out of 60).

You have lots of time. Start early.

Essays – answer six (6) of the following questions

1. What is regulatory capture? How does this relate to the principal-agent problem?
2. Briefly compare and contrast Austrian and Keynesian economics as we have discussed them in the course. What has been their influence on policy-making?
3. According to Wilson, what is the role of organization in bureaucratic effectiveness? Select one of his organization examples from Chapter 2 to illustrate your answer.
4. Explain how the principal agent problem applies in the context of bureaucracy as we have discussed it in the course. What major problems does this approach point out in the management of bureaucracy?
5. Explain why oversight of bureaucracies is problematic for elected officials and for citizens.
6. Select two of Wilson's types of organizations and discuss the mechanisms for ensuring compliance within these two organizations. How do these mechanisms relate to the problems we have discussed regarding oversight?
7. What are the major changes to the basic “parameters of society” as defined by Castles? Given the global political context of the post WWII period, how do these changes affect the ability of political leaders to form effective public policy?
8. According to Castles, what are the origins of “big government”? Does the development of larger government expenditures follow a discernible pattern?
9. Compare and contrast two of the theories of policy-making outlined by Adolino and Blake in Chapter Two. Which seems more useful for comparing public policies?
10. Compare and contrast the policy-making context in two of the states discussed by Adolino and Blake in Chapter 4. How do these differences reflect differences in domestic political institutions?