

The Comprehensive Exam:

The test will be similar in form to the first two tests but will be longer. There will be multiple choice questions, definitions and explanation of terms and essay questions. It will be a comprehensive exam covering the entire semester. About 60 % of the material on the exam will cover material since our last hourly exam. The rest of the exam will cover material from earlier in the semester. I will not have any review sessions.

Or

Alternately you can choose to do the take home essay:

Com310 Take Home Final Essay Specifications Autumn 2013 Dullea
Directions: Below are the 3 topic choices for the take home final. Please select and answer one. Each student is expected to work independently. Your Essay should be between 600 and 800 words long. Use MLA style to document your sources and attribute any quotes (plagiarism is not acceptable! Warning: you essays may be submitted to turnitin.com to verify authorship). Include the question above your answer. Please use a clearly readable 12-point font and double spaces between lines. Be sure to include your name and student number.

This final provides an opportunity for you to display mastery of concepts and if you make the proper effort there is no reason why you should not do very well! As this is a take home, I expect fully developed & coherent essays. Your effort should be substantially free of grammar and spelling errors. Remember this exam is worth 20% of your final Grade. Good Luck

Form of Submission: Please provide both a hard copy to me at my office (room 135 B H Snell Hall) and an electronic copy via email (ddullea@clarkson.edu).

Due When & Where: You are to turn in 2 copies of your final essay: an electronic copy via email and a paper copy to be delivered to my office (135 BH Snell Hall). The earliest your take home final can be turned in to me electronically is Monday Dec 9th. All take home exams must be delivered to my email account and office no later than Wednesday Dec. 11th, 2013 at noon. If I am not present in my office please slide your submission under the door.

The Topics

1). The Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) Free Trade Agreement is in the final stages of negotiation and scheduled to be wrapped up for ratification by involved nations before the end of the year. Your task is to investigate and research the mass media to understand what is publically known about this secret treaty. Then determine whether or not you believe it should be approved and write a letter to your congressman or senator or the president urging him or her to support or reject TPP. In the letter sure to bring evidence and facts to bear in support of your position.

2). We're #1. The idea of "American Exceptionalism" and the conventional wisdom of the last of the last fifty years believes that international media conglomeration has been a driving force in making English the universal language and American material culture the envy of the world. Do you believe this will prove to be true in the years ahead? Why or why not? Provide evidence to support your viewpoint. Be sure to include viewpoints from other nations and cultures of the world.

3). A majority of people argue, using scientific evidence, that Global Warming and Global Climate change are the defining problem of our time and how we address the problem will determine the fate of our species. Others believe that either there is no problem or that we will find technological fixes to overcome any potential climate disaster. You are to examine how these polar opposite are portrayed in the mass media. What evidence and arguments does each side use. Does either side have undeniable evidence? Take a position on the controversy and describe how mass media might better inform, educated and help resolve this critical societal impasse.