

Study Guide: Final Exam  
IGS 10a  
SP 2025

**Test mechanics:**

Place and time:  
Friday, May 8, 1:30-4:30 pm

Regular classroom  
You have to be here for the test: no excuses.

Format: closed book, in class

Some tests of fundamental facts, by fill-in and/or multiple choice

6-8 short written answers

Test will cover about 40 percent economics and migration, 60 percent topics from past

**PART ONE: Global Politics**

European Imperialism and Nationalism

Tom Friedman: world is interconnected, but also people are more similar

How did that happen? European Empires

Began as top-down efforts to extend imperial rule Were not, originally, nationalist campaigns

“Settler” colonies vs. “Elite” or “Trader” colonies

Patterns started by Spain and Portugal: 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas divides the world between them

Settler – New World. Pattern established by Spain.

Large populations exported Massacre of indigenous populations  
Culturally integrated with the home country

Trader or Elite colonies: Asia and Africa. Pattern set by Portugal.

Trade routes  
Light footprint on local populations

Shift to nationalism: what is nationalism?

New way of organizing society: principles:

The nation – the people – are the supreme object of loyalty, sovereignty and solidarity

The people: larger than any concrete community and always fundamentally homogenous, and only superficially divided by the lines of status, class, locality, ethnicity.

Paradox: settler nations broke free of colonies first

Had absorbed the nationalist ideal from exposure in Europe

In Asia: the focus on trade meant much less exposure to nationalism among local population

Port. – got there first

Dutch – developed trade among Asian societies British – apply national principle

British in India

East India Co -- become tax collectors and administrators for princely states, Mughal empire

1857: British government took complete control of Company's operations in India

Within a few decades had British-educated Indians

Aspiring lawyers, journalists

LEGACIES OF IMPERIALISM?

In establishing these new nations, had to overcome decades of economic exploitation and political repression

Still, some of the legacy of colonialism actually helped create nations

Sun-Yat Sen: many elements of modernity are already in our old traditions

We must have nationalism first, then can have cosmopolitanism

Nehru: India should have a “dynamic outlook,” “old vested interests” (such as caste) “have to go.”

### The United Nations and the Post-Colonial Age

After World War II, the fulfillment of this new order

Guiding principles of U.N.: resist aggression and promote human development

Why a strong Security Council? Who is on it?

Five are permanent: the victors in World War Two Three still the same: U.S., Great

Britain, France

Two have changed:

China: shifted from Taiwan to mainland in 1971 Russia took over seat of Soviet Union in 1991

Powers of the Security Council? In theory, great: To counter acts of aggression, can pass

Sanctions

Can deploy peacekeepers: with permission of both sides

In practice, often stymied by veto of permanent members

Russia and China veto all action on Ukraine

Can organize military operations against aggressor

Happened three times: Korea (1950), Iraq (1991), Libya (2011)

Security Council supposed to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity

Now allowed to violate under doctrine of “Responsibility to Protect”  
Origins of Libya operation

## Post-Cold War: Triumph of Liberalism?

Liberal democracy and free markets go together.

Why did it look like this? What changed?

### Rise of China and India

At first, both rejected capitalism as Western form

Both have since become huge, growing economies

BUT: with very different politics India: a long legacy of democracy

Gandhi wanted more culturally authentic India, less modernization

Nehru prevailed: modernize, abolish caste legally

Still some remnants in social and economic life

China is managing to increase its economy without changing its politics

China and India: the new powers that are changing the world order

How are they different from each other and from old liberal West?

Different experiences with Western empires?

## PART TWO: Culture and Identity

Role culture plays in the organization of a society

What distinguishes Christianity and Islam from other world religions? What makes them global in a way other major faiths are not?

### Christianity: be able to answer

What do Christians believe? Who do they think Jesus Christ was? What do they think his relationship to God was?

What was the major long-term consequence of the end of the Thirty Years War between Catholics and Protestants? What is Christianity's relationship to the state?

What characteristics distinguish Christianity in the global South from European and American Christianity?

What is secularism? Where is it prevalent? Why?

### **Islam: be able to answer**

What are the main tenets of Islam? Who was Mohammed? What was his relationship to Allah?

Broadly speaking, what is Islam's relationship to government?

What is the difference between Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims? Where are each found?

Who was Atatürk: how did he destabilize global Islam?

How is the current Turkish president different?

How do different branches of political Islam approach modernity? Who is comfortable with it and what aspects do they welcome? What do a small minority oppose?

### **Hollywood and Global Culture**

Is Hollywood an American cultural industry? A global one? Both? Does it promote American cultural values?

Is Hollywood an aspect of McWorld? Why or why not?

What does adaptation reveal about the endurance of local cultural identities and preferences?

### **Bollywood and South Korea as alternatives**

**Bollywood: a distinct national culture capable of competing with Hollywood South**

**Korea: culture as a major export, as seen, for example, in Parasite and BTS**

**Is Netflix Hollywood or post-Hollywood?**

### **Confucianism and “Asian Values”**

Singapore attempted to impose “Asian values” on its multicultural society. What does

its experience teach us about governmental attempts to cultivate cultural difference?

What are Xi Jinping's ambitions for Chinese traditions?

## **PART THREE: Law, Justice, and Human Rights**

### **Postwar Economics**

Key ideas behind Mercantilism, Liberalism, Structuralism, Social Constructivism

In what way is current world economic order "liberal?"

Bretton Woods and changes post-1971

Free floating currencies and speculation

Role of IMF in backing up currencies and supporting emerging economies

Structural adjustment programs

### **IMF and World Bank Controversies**

IMF decision-making: U.S. veto

One-size-fits-all structural adjustment programs

World Bank criticisms

Massive development projects, "odious debt" across generations

### **Global Trade and the WTO**

Comparative advantage: why a goal of lowering tariffs?

Non-tariff barriers: "quality concerns," import quotas, (social) dumping

Methods of negotiation trade barriers down: conversion to tariffs, non-discrimination

Trump's "Liberation Day" a challenge to free trade institutions

### **Transnational Corporations and Growth**

Where foreign direct investment goes and why

Does foreign direct investment put a country under the control of foreign companies?

“Race for the bottom” – will companies threaten to pull out of a country unless get favorable terms?

Does lowering barriers to entry help countries playing companies off one another?

Should developing countries be free to set lower working conditions and environmental standards?

## **Human Rights**

Different types of human rights:

First generation: “Negative” or civic human rights

Second generation: “Positive” or social human rights

Third generation: communal or collective right

Xinjiang as human rights violation but also fulfilment of China’s alternative human rights

## **Global Migration**

Benefits from migration: remittances. Dangers: brain drain.

Asymmetry of global migration

Characteristic of migration: who comes to rich countries?

Forced migration: definitions of refugee vs. other displaced and vulnerable people

Refugees vs. asylum seekers