Study Guide #3

You are responsible for all lectures, in-class videos and reading assignments since the last exam.

1. Theories of Technology

a. Characteristics of instrumental theory of technology: tool, universal, neutral progressive, utopia.

b. Critical theory of technology: institutional/power determinants, lack of value neutrality, technological development as problem solving vs problem posing, examples.

c. Technology and unintended consequences.

Terms: GMOs, diagnostic technology, gene therapy, power, domination, life science industries, drones, cybersecurity, Fordism, offshoring.

2. Neoliberal Theory

a. Theoretical components: theory of history, free market theory, theory of technology, and theory of freedom.

b. Policies and practices: privatization, deregulation and cutbacks in social services, developmental loans, free trade agreements and structural adjustment plans, austerity.

Terms: Washington Consensus, globalization, global village, laws of the market place, universal human nature, technology transfer, IMF, World Bank, WTO, NAFTA, GATT, TPP, structural adjustment plans, progress, utopian capitalist world system, privatization, deregulation, export-driven economy, austerity, laissez faire, GDP, PCI, TINA.

3. Theories of Education

a. Structural Functional theory of education: functions of education, structure of education.

b. Neoliberal theory of education: redefining and restructuring education K-12 and higher education.

c. Critical theory of education: function of education within the system of oppression, education and social justice, education as liberation, dialogue as a theory of pedagogy.

Terms: Port Huron Statement, free market theory, school reform, business model, meritocracy, school reform,

charter schools, voucher system, labor flexibility, FTES, technologized education, co-locations, debt bondage, academically adrift, latency function, directed action, banking method, value-added, revenue streams

4. Theory of Collective Power

a. Collective Power: collective action, progressive social change, examples, successes

b. “Waking the People”: conditions necessary for social movement to emerge.

c. “Taming the People”: institutions of social control and their function

Terms: disenfranchisement, de jure segregation, social role, collective bargaining, COINTELPRO, Ludlow Massacre, “American exceptionalism,” Lawrence Textile strike, grassroots, shape up, speed up, ideology, non-violent civil disobedience, direct action, sit-down strike, general strike, boycotts, cognitive liberation, social dislocation, elite, social strain, scapegoating, police militarization.