

Study Guide: Final Exam

THE BASICS:

- The exam covers all lectures given since 10/18 (in other words, 10/23: “The West Encounters Total War” to the final lecture on 12/6).
- The exam consists of two parts.
 - Part I (50 points) is an open-note, open-book, take-home essay, due by noon on Tuesday, Dec. 10. As before, you will submit this portion of the exam through the Turn-it-in dropbox on Moodle.
 - Part II (150 points) will be given on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 12:30-2:30 pm, in 16 Lockett.

Tips for studying:

1. Attend one of Eleanor’s SI **review sessions**: Thursday, Dec 5, 5-7pm; Friday, Dec 6, 3-5pm. Both in Allen B19.
2. Use timelines to help you sort through chronological relations/ cause-and-effect.
3. Use concept mapping (see the article on Concept Mapping posted at the top of our Moodle page) and outlines to link up info from the various lectures to major themes.

PART I: This 50-point essay question has been posted on Moodle for several weeks already.

Your essay needs to show that you understand the major themes of this course—this course, this section, this semester, not someone else’s course, and not a previous version of this course.

- If you bring in information from outside sources (such as Wikipedia), you will receive a grade of 0.
- If you simply copy sections from your textbook, you will receive a grade of 0. If you simply paraphrase sections from your textbook, you will receive a grade of 0.
- Your essay should consist of about 5-6 detailed paragraphs. Every paragraph should present a major point in support of your thesis. Every paragraph should contain concrete examples that support your general statements.
- You do **not** have to write an elaborate introduction, nor do you need the sort of interesting “hook” that I would expect on a formal paper. **Just state your thesis** and move into your argument.
- You do **not** need an elaborate conclusion.

PART II: 150 points

Part II of the final will take place in 16 Lockett, 12:30, Dec. 10.

- You do not need a bluebook.
- Bring two pens (blue or black ink, please). You will not be permitted to write your exam in pencil.
- Notes page: You may bring a single large notecard: handwritten—no photocopies, no typing; use one side only. You must hand it in with your exam; you must put your name on it.
- **This part of the exam will consist of three sections.**
 - Section A (25 points) will ask you to analyze an image or a short (very short) document—a primary source. If you have actively participated in our Mystery Doc sessions and if you have taken good notes and studied them, you should do very well on this section.
 - Section B (50 points): definitions and identifications.
 - Section C (75 points): short answers and short essays.

Recommendations RE the notecard:

1. Don't just cram a bunch of facts onto the card. History really is **not** "just one damn thing after another" (to quote Henry Ford).
2. If there are any concepts/definition/chronologies that you have trouble keeping straight, put those on your card so you can be confident that it's right in front of you.

Sample questions from 10/30 "The Making of the Modern Middle East":

[Sit down with your lecture notes from 10/30 and look at these questions: **what sorts of things am I asking about?** If you stop and think about it, **you should be able to come up with similar questions for each one of your lectures.**]

1. Identify and explain the significance of:
the term "Middle East" Hashemite dynasty Zionism Sharif Husayn ibn Ali
McMahon-Husayn Correspondence Sykes-Picot Treaty
Balfour Declaration *Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*
Islamic Caliphate the Mandate system King Faisal I of Iraq
2. What factors made the Middle East a region of both increasing importance and increasing instability in the years before World War I?
3. Why did British forces fight the Ottoman army in the Middle East during World War I? Why was this region important to Britain?
4. During World War I, British policymakers made a set of contradictory promises: What did

they promise, to whom, and why? How do these promises help us understand continuing tensions in the Middle East?

5. How does the Balfour Declaration help illustrate the power of racial prejudice in shaping the history of the West (or in this case, the Middle East)?

6. What three problems or weaknesses undercut the stability of the post-WWI settlement of the Middle East?