I expect you to provide a well thought out answer. Your answers should emphasize the information you learned during the lectures, discussions, videos and readings (cite often). In theory, most questions do not have a clear right or wrong answer. You will be graded based on how well you support your position with the class material. Below are three possible essay questions I may ask on the exam. Please note that the questions will likely be worded differently (but with similar intent) or two or more questions may be combined. You will have at least two choices, **answer one**. (100 points)

In his article, *American Imperial Ambition,* Ikenberry argues that since 1940s the US foreign policy has been defined by two grand strategies, and since the dawn of the Cold War a new grand strategy is taking shape in Washington. First, explain fully each of these three grand strategies and their elements. According to Sarkesian et al., after 9/11 the characteristics of conflict are different. Explain nature, characteristics and dimensions of international conflicts (the conflict spectrum). Then, based on Ikenberry’s argument, discuss which one of these grand strategies would be more effective in terms of encountering unconventional threats after 9/11. Finally, discuss what the ideal US national security policy would be on the war on terrorism?

First, explain fully each of these three grand strategies and their elements. According to Sarkesian et al., after 9/11 the characteristics of conflict are different

1. Realist grand strategy: (Planned to counter soviet powers)

* Organized around containment, deterrence, and maintenance of the global balance of power.
* Sought to deny the Soviet Union the ability to expand its sphere of influence.
* This stragegy lead to institutions and partnerships such as NATO and US –Japan alliances, American led security partnerships

created a political rationale for establishing major security commitments around the world.

2. Liberal grand strategy: (Planned to avoid a return to the 1930; regional blocs, trade conflict, strategic conflict)

- Forged during WWII while the US was planning the reconstruction of the world economy.

- Seeked to build order around institutionalizing political relations among integrated market

democracies, supported by an opening of economies.

- created a positive agenda for American leadership. The US could exercise its power and achieve its

national interests, but it did so in a way that helped deepen the fabric of international community.

American power did not destabilize world order: it helped create it.

- New grand strategy is mostly a directly a response to terrorism, but it also constitutes a broader view about how the US should wield power and organize world power.

-America will be less bound to its partners and to global rules and institutions while it steps forward to play a greater role in fighting terrorist threats and confronting rogue states seeking WMDs.

- Plans to use unrivaled military power to manage the global order.

New grand Strategy has 7 elements:

1. Fundamental commitment to maintaining a unipolar world where the US has no peer competitor.
   1. The US will be so much more powerful than other major states that strategic rivalries and security competition among the great power will disappear. Leaving everyone better off.
2. Dramatic new analysis of global threats and how they must be attacked
   1. Attempt to find out the things we don’t know we don’t know
3. Maintains that the Cold War concept of deterrence is outdated.
   1. Modern day is not other great powers that have to be deterred through nuclear capabilities. It is terrorists who have no specific home and are willing to die or escape retaliation
4. Recasting of the terms of sovereignty. Because these terrorist groups cnat be deterred the US must be prepared to intervene anywhere anytime to preemptively destroy the threat.
   1. Terroirists do not respect borders so neither can the US.
5. General depreciation of international rules, treaties, and security partnerships.
6. The US will need to play a direct and unconstrained role in responding to threats.
7. The new grand strategy attaches little value to international stability.
   1. Willing to back out of old treaties that prohibit certain actions in order to create better opportunities.
   2. Instability in North Korea may be needed to rid Pyongyang of its bad regime leadership.

Explain the nature, characteristics and dimensions of international conflicts (the conflict spectrum).

Contemporary and future conflict will be multidimensional, confusing, and comlex.

based on Ikenberry’s argument, discuss which one of these grand strategies would be more effective in terms of encountering unconventional threats after 9/11.

The older strategies of realism and liberalism would be more effective. Because they stressed the importance of security partnerships and saw them as critical components to an US led world. Also, implementing liberalism ideals through improving the world economy which historically shows to cerate world order and stability.

discuss what the ideal US national security policy would be on the war on terrorism?

One that focuses on expanding economic opportunity to regions where terrorism is at large allowing for the people there to have other options than to turn to terrorism for basic survivial.