

## POL2 – Final Study Guide

### **Final Exam: Wednesday, March 16, 8:00-10am in our regular classroom**

Be sure to bring blue books – **not** the big “law school” kind – to class. Please do not write your names in them prior to class, as they will be exchanged once you arrive.

At the top of the exam, you will have the following instructions:

POL2 (Scheiner) Final Exam – Winter 2016  
100 points total

**Instructions:** Please write on your blue book: (1) [Your name], (2) “POL2 – Final,” (3) the name of your TA & section day/time, and (4) Today’s date. Other instructions:

- When you are done with the exam, **PLEASE BE VERY, VERY QUIET** as you get up, turn in your exam, and leave the classroom.
- If possible, please write only on one side of each page. (It can be hard to read when front & back of pages have writing on them.) For this reason, you might need 2 blue books.
- Please give the exam to your TA (unless the TA is not present).
- **Please turn in the exam questions with your answer sheet. Blue books turned in without exam questions will not be accepted.**
- Be sure to write legibly, preferably with blue or black pen ink. (Illegible answers will get a zero.)
- Nothing but pens and blue books on your desks. (No dictionaries, please.) If you have anything besides the blue book, exam question, and pen out, we will automatically take away your exam and give you a score of 0 (unless an instructor has given you permission).
- Pace yourself well – you only have a limited amount of time.
- Your answers should be written in your blue book.

**There are 2 essay questions below. Please answer them both. (Each is worth 50 points.)**

- Be sure to make an argument that you state clearly at beginning of each essay. You should present a thesis statement very early (ideally first sentence of the essay or, at latest, the end of the first paragraph).
- Be sure to cite authors and their arguments by name.
- Probably a good idea to outline your answer before writing it. Be sure to focus on answering the question as you go along (and not meander around, simply showing all you know on the topic).

Information on the topics for the Final on p. 2

### **Most important items for the final**

- There have been only a few lectures since the midterm, so this study guide is much shorter than the previous one.
- The substantive focus of the exam will be on the last part of the class – but there is also some work (see below) from earlier in the course that you should also know well.
- As before, it is very important that you understand the basic ideas behind social science analysis and why doing social science is important (especially with respect to the cases we studied in the last part of the course). You should certainly understand the work of Lave and March, but also the basic information presented in class on social science methods/approaches.

### **You should understand how the following authors use and discuss social science, and what their specific substantive arguments and findings are:**

- Brady et al.
- Cox
- Straus
- Weinstein

### **Grades**

- The instructors will submit grades within a week after the final exam.
- In order to learn what your final grade is, please check Smartsite (approximately 1 week after the final exam) rather than asking the instructors.
- Questions about grades should be directed to your TA.
- Please see the syllabus and course expectations for other information about grading (including how numerical scores translate into letter grades). Keep in mind that your grade will be based on your scores in the class, and grades are not negotiable.
- Once final grades are posted at Smartsite, that means that they have been submitted to the registrar. At that point, unless we made a calculation error, we cannot change your grade.