Study Questions for the Midterm

The fifty-minute midterm will consist of two parts. The first will ask you to identify five of eight or so concepts/issues/people for twenty-five minutes. The second part will be an essay question for the remainder. You will have choices for the essay question. Some of the questions may be listed below, but not necessarily those that will appear on the exam. Please bring a bluebook, available in the Bookstore or at the Student Union.

Identification Questions:

1. What is a warlord?
2. What is the mass line?
3. What is a Thatcherite?
4. How can the assumptions of quantum mechanics promote world peace?
5. Why is the Treaty of Westphalia important?
6. What is ideology?
7. What is an MP?
8. What is fusion of powers?
9. What is a by-election?
10. What is the Middle Kingdom?
11. What was the Tiananmen Massacre?
12. What is a carpetbagger?
13. What did Tony Blair call his Labour Party?
14. What is the first law of thermodynamics?
15. What was the Good Friday agreement?
16. What is immigration?
17. What was the Open Door policy?
18. Ilya Prigogine won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1977 for inventing what?
19. What were the Opium Wars about?
20. What is the "Two-plus" party system?
21. What are reparations?
22. What is a blocked society?
23. Supply the two missing words in the following sentence. Einstein teaches us that we should look for laws of the universe which are the _____ for_______.
24. Why does the U.S. disagree with the yuan valuation?
25. What was the “Great Cultural Revolution?”
26. What are the two main political parties in Germany?
27. Name three of the weaknesses of the US electoral system.
28. What is the essential characteristic of a parliamentary system?
29. Who is Mahmoud Amadinejad?

Essay Questions:

1. What is the difference between a unitary, federal, and confederal form of government? Illustrate how they operate with reference to a country or inter-national institution that subscribes to their form of governance.

2. What are the strengths and weaknesses of various ways delegates are elected to legislatures? Illustrate with reference to the three countries discussed in this class so far.

3. List the key institutions of the British political system and how they interact.

4. List the key institutions of the German political system and how they interact.

5. What problems face China today?

6. To what extent are Tony Blair and Bill Clinton to be compared in their approaches to reforming their respective parties? What were their campaigning similarities?

7. What was Thatcher's cure for the "sick man" of Europe? Did it work? Why (why not)?

8. What problems face Germany today?

9. What are the outstanding disputes between the U.S. and China today?

10. From the Soviet perspective, what caused the Cold War?

11. Why is it important to understand the causes and consequences of wars?