

Study Guide  
POL148B

I reserve the right until the final class to change the study guide and format of the final exam slightly (e.g., add more questions to one of these sections), but here is what is written at the top of the exam:

Final – Spring 2016  
POL148B (Scheiner)  
100 total points

- Be sure to write legibly, preferably with blue or black pen ink. (Illegible answers will get a zero.)
- 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.
- Nothing but pens and blue books on your desks. (No dictionaries, please.)
- Pace yourself well – you only have a limited amount of time.
- **Please turn in the exam questions with your answer sheet. Blue books turned in without exam questions will not be accepted.**

There are 2 essay questions below – please answer both. The first is worth 40 points. The second is worth 60 points.

In the following pages, I outline the key concepts/terms for you to know. I also underline particularly important concepts.

## Parties in Japan

- Parties to know:
  - LDP, JSP/SDPJ, DSP, Kômeitô (CGP), JCP, Shinseito, Sakigake, NFP, DPJ, JF
- Main differences between LDP and JSP and between LDP and DPJ
- Importance of 1989 for the party system
- Why LDP Does Better in Rural Areas?
- 1993 LDP split
- 1993 HR election
- Why Ozawa wanted to leave the LDP
- 1993-94 anti-LDP coalition government
- LDP-coalition governments:
  - LDP-JSP coalition government
  - LDP-Kômeitô coalition government
- 1990s/2000s voter unhappiness
- Postal reform and 2005 HR election
- Koizumi
- Ozawa Ichiro
- Hatoyama Yukio
- Kan Naoto
- Abe
- 2009 HR election
- What has happened since the 2009 HR election?
- 2012 & 2014 HR elections
- Be able to explain the reasons for longtime LDP dominance.
  - To what extent was LDP dominance simply due to a strong preference among Japanese voters for the LDP and its policies?
  - Is the LDP a “popular party”? When is the last time the party won a majority of the vote?
- What negative effects are there of LDP dominance?
- Be able to explain the decline of LDP dominance and the rise of the DPJ.

## Electoral Systems and Elections

- SNTV/MMD
- Mixed-member system
  - How does the new system work?
  - To what extent has it led to important changes in Japanese politics?
- PR
- SMD
- Effects of new electoral system
- What sorts of things are emphasized in Japanese elections?

### Clientelism – everything here is really important

- What is clientelism?
- Reasons for Clientelism in Japan
- What types of organizations and individuals are/were central to the working of clientelism?
- In what forms did/does clientelism exist in Japanese politics?
- Why clientelism more important in countryside than in cities?
- Clientelism and Japan's political economy
- How did clientelism affect the ability of opposition parties to topple the LDP?
- How and why did clientelistic relations change for the LDP in the 2000s?
  - And how did this change impact politics?
- What was the impact of Koizumi's actions on clientelistic politics in Japan?
  - What was the impact of this on LDP/opposition party success (and failure)?

### Japan's Government

- Why the recent decline in reputation of bureaucrats?

### Japan's Postwar Economy

- 1980s Japanese economic strength
- What and when was the Japanese bubble?
- Why the bubble emerged?
- Why did the bubble burst and when?
- 1990s bank crisis
- Non-performing loans
- Lost decade
- What role has clientelism played in the weakness of the Japanese economy and Japan's ability to respond to the country's economic problems of the past two decades?
- Government efforts to deal with failing economy (1990s)
  - To what extent is the government responsible for Japanese economic problems?
  - To what extent are other things responsible?
- How is LDP dominance partly to blame for the bad economy?
- Given today's economic problems, need for tradeoffs in LDP's support base
- Key Components of Postwar Japanese Economic Policy (see early lecture)
- Dual economy
- In what ways did the government play a role in shaping the success of the "miracle economy"?
  - Other reasons (besides government planning) for the big economic growth of Japan from 1950s until the end of the 1980s?
- Bad Sides of Japanese Economy in the pre-1990s period

**See next page for information on grades & grading**

## 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.
- Below, I list how overall numerical scores in the class translate into letter grades. Please see the syllabus and course expectations for other information about grading.
- Keep in mind that your grade will be based on your scores in the class, and grades are not negotiable.
  - We do not provide an option to regrade your final exam.
  - We round grades to the 0.1 place.
  - Except in cases in which we made a calculation/clerical error, we will not respond to requests for changes to your grade (on either the final exam or overall grade in the class).
  - If there was a calculation/clerical error that led to you receiving an incorrect grade, please contact your TA with the correct calculation and the correct NEW letter grade. (Please only contact us with a corrected score if it would lead to a change in your letter grade in the class.) If you do not provide this information, we will not respond to your request for a grade change.
- We do not make exceptions to the above policies and will not respond to requests for exceptions to be made.

Numerical grades translate into letter grades as follows:

- 100 = A+
- 93.6-99.9 = A
- 90-93.5 = A-
- 86.6-89.9 = B+
- 83.6-86.5 = B
- 80 – 83.5 = B-
- Etc.