

Final exam: directions and evaluation criteria**Directions**

This exam is distributed at 9 a.m. on Monday, December 17. It is due at 3 p.m. on Thursday, December 20.

Answer one question from each of the three groups of questions. Answer only one question from each group. Answer a total of three questions. Each answer should be in essay form. As a whole, your exam should discuss **at least seven texts from the course**.

Regardless of what has been previously announced, you should turn in this exam **in hard copy** to Prof. Goldstone. He will be in Murray 213, our regular classroom, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. on December 20. Late exams in any form cannot be accepted. **E-mailed exams cannot be accepted.** Digital submission via Sakai Drop Box is allowed only if you have **made a prior arrangement with Prof. Goldstone**.

Start each essay on a new page. You may type or handwrite your exam. If you type, back up your work frequently and make sure to allow time for printing, including printing problems.

You are to spend **no more than six hours total** during this period working on the exam. You may split this time up. At the top of your exam paper, record each time you start and stop working on your exam. Also record your total time. The top of your exam might look like this:

Started: Monday 12:00 p.m.

Stopped: Monday 2:00 p.m.

Started: Wednesday 10:30 a.m.

Stopped: Wednesday 1:00 p.m.

Total: 4:30

You are on your honor to adhere to the time constraint.

Each exam essay is timed to take **ninety minutes** to complete. Spend ten to fifteen minutes planning, sixty minutes writing, and the remaining time looking your answer over for obvious errors. A typical answer might be about two typed pages or six substantial paragraphs.

This is an **open-book exam**. You may use the course books, your own notes, and the slides from the course. Once the exam begins, you may not refer to other people's work, including material from the Internet or from classmates. You may not discuss the exam with classmates or anyone else. Submitting the work of someone else as your own work is plagiarism; plagiarism will have severe consequences in accordance with the university academic integrity policy.

Turn the page for the exam questions.

Evaluation criteria

Each of the three exam answers will be graded on the four-point scale explained on the syllabus. The three grades will be averaged to give the exam grade, that is, each question counts for one third of the grade.

A good exam answer:

1. has a clear thesis that responds to the prompt;
2. supports the thesis with textual evidence from each text it discusses, quoting and analyzing passages in terms of their specific features;
3. makes specific connections among multiple texts, discussing at least the minimum number of texts required by the prompt;
4. avoids broad generalizations that cannot be proven;
5. avoids plot summary or generalized descriptions of character;
6. interprets the way texts work in terms of specific features of language, structure, theme, and genre;
7. makes effective use of key concepts and terminology developed in class;
8. is written in connected paragraphs made out of complete sentences.

A polished style will produce a favorable impression but is not a criterion of evaluation.

Material from class sessions, including passages discussed in class, may be freely used in essays. Quoted material from the books we have read should be cited by page number or location in digital text (if no location information, use "n.p." in place of a page number). Bibliographically complete citations are not required.