

Structure & Procedures: The oral exam is worth 50 points; the written exam is worth 50 points. The oral exam has three parts and should take about 7-10 minutes to complete. The exam is 1-on-1 with the instructor. Make sure your camera and microphone are working well before your exam time. Your instructor will first ask three “short answer” questions, worth 10 points each, to check your grammar. Students may request the instructor to ask/repeat the question up to three times (Part 1&2). For “short answer” questions, if you say nothing at all, you will get no points. A one-word answer like “yes” or “no” will only give you one point; similarly, only saying two words without a complete sentence will only earn two points, even if the answer is correct. An answer of “I pass” is worth two points, “I don’t know” is worth three points. If your answer can’t be understood due to poor grammar or pronunciation, you will receive four points. Wrong answers with perfect grammar will receive five points. Correct answers excluding something important (like an “-s” or an “-ed”) will earn six points. Answers with minor grammatical errors will earn seven or eight points. A perfect answer in a complete sentence is worth nine points. To get ten points, give more than one perfect sentence. Part 2 will require you to talk about one of the texts from Western media we read in class, and you’ll be graded on accuracy and basic grammar for up to ten points. In the last section, you will speak freely (and converse with the instructor) on a larger topic. You will be graded on your fluency and ability to express yourself (not on vocabulary, grammar, or pronunciation). Prepare at least two topics; if you only prepare one, the instructor will grade more harshly. The instructor will allow you to begin the discussion with two sentences and then begin asking you questions. The last section is worth 10 points, for a total of 50. Students are encouraged to prepare for the exam with a classmate, taking turns asking and answering questions, changing question forms, and talking about the discussion topics!

Part 1: Short Answer (3)- \*What is your surname? \*What is your full name? \*How many parts are in a Western name? \*What are the three parts in a Western name? \*Who gave you your given/English/Western name? \*What are your initials? \*What is a maiden name? \*Which comes first in the alphabet: \_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_? \*In what city and province is your college, and what is your major? \*On which campus of your university do you attend classes? \*How is public health different from general medical studies? \*In science, what is “confirmation bias”? \*What is the difference between partisanship and polarization among citizens or politicians/“soft” and “hard” accountability? \*How are elite and “establishment” politicians different from populists? \*How do U.S. citizens choose presidential nominees? \*Who was the incumbent president in this election, and who was the challenger? \*Which U.S. presidential candidate did you want to win/lose the election & why? \*How much do you think Pres. Trump’s handling of the pandemic cost him re-election? \*Did you believe the polls saying Biden would win or not, and why/why not? \*How is direct democracy different from representative democracy? \*How has the electorate expanded since the USA was founded in 1776? \*Why is it possible for a U.S. president to be elected with fewer votes than his/her opponent? \*What is a single-issue voter/wedge issue? \*Before Trump, when was the last time the USA had a single-term president? \*In China and the West, why do the terms “liberal” and “conservative” refer to different “wings” of the political spectrum? \*Pres. Trump’s opponents have accused him of supporting white supremacy. Do you agree or disagree with this criticism, and why?

Part 2: Talk about a text we read in class - Your instructor will ask you 1-3 questions about one of the texts we read in class. You may be asked to name the author, source, publication date, intended audience, or topic. If only one question, it will probably be: “What is this text’s main argument? Summarize it.”

Part 3: Discussion Questions (Prepare 2 or more, Instructor chooses 1)– 1. Do you believe that we can use scientific methods to answer political questions such as whether women lead countries differently than men? Why/why not? 2. Do you believe the authors who find data supporting the idea that women leaders responded better than male leaders to Covid-19? Why/why not? 3. Pres. Trump’s White House website calls his administration’s response to Covid-19 “historic” and denies that his administration did anything wrong. Do you find this credible or just propaganda that denies obvious mistakes? Why? 4. What do you think of Libertarians in the USA? 5. What is your understanding, and what are your views on the different kinds of right-wing and conservative citizens in the USA (i.e. fiscal, social, neo-, Libertarian)? 6. Supporters of liberal democracy say that it is the best system for holding leaders accountable because the people may remove bad leaders from office by not re-electing them (as may have happened to Pres. Trump). Do you agree or disagree this is a good method for political accountability? 7. Do you think Americans are more polarized by economic class, race, partisanship, or something else (i.e. pro-Trump/anti-Trump)? To what extent can Pres. Biden unify such a divided nation? 8. Why do you think so many Americans resist public health advice like wearing masks as restricting their freedom and see basic welfare policies like providing healthcare and aid to poor people as a bad kind of socialism? 9. If you watched the 2020 debates, what did you think of Trump and Biden’s performances? Should third parties like the Greens and Libertarians be allowed to debate with them, and how would that change the debates? 10. If you were an American, what kinds of policy changes would you support and oppose? Do you think radical change is dangerous, necessary, possible, or impossible? Why?