

April 6, 2020

Dear students in POLI 203

I am writing to describe changes to the format of our final exam. Normally the university requires a 3-hour, in-person exam. Obviously that can't happen this semester. We have been given some flexibility to make adjustments, so I'm writing to explain the adjustments we will make in this class.

Rather than have a single 3 hour period where all of you must be on-line simultaneously, the exam will be broken into three parts, as follows:

Part A (50 percent). Five additional 10-question quizzes, to be taken at any time during the period between Monday April 27 and the end of exam time, 3pm Tuesday May 5.

Part B (30 percent). Two additional posts in your discussion section Sakai forums. These will be due according to the schedule given by your TA, but no later than the last day of scheduled class.

Part C (20 percent). A short narrative response to a prompt to be provided on Monday May 4 and due by the end of exam time, 3pm Tuesday May 5. This response will be approximately 300 words and will be graded acceptable or not acceptable. Any answer that engages seriously with the material will be marked acceptable. Unacceptable answers will be those fewer than 100 words, ones that are off-topic, or ones that simply express an opinion rather than an engagement with the course materials.

For those of you with accommodations for any disability, this alternative format exam should also meet all those requirements so I will not be making additional accommodations beyond this option. If I am mistaken, please let me know and I will work with you regarding any registered disability.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Baumgartner
Professor, POLI 203, Spring 2020.