

## DESCRIPTION OF THE EXAM

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The exam will consist of different kinds of questions:

- ▶ **Identifications** (6 or so) — you'll be provided with a term and you'll need to give (a) a description of what it refers to and (b) its significance or importance. All the identification terms will come from this sheet.
- ▶ **Multiple choice** (6 or so)
- ▶ **World Map** — You'll need to identify major countries we've discussed in class
- ▶ **Short answer** (2 or 3) — like a quiz questions, a couple of paragraphs on a specific topic we've discussed
- ▶ **Essay** (1) — a longer discussion giving your interpretation and analysis of a major theme we've covered

## Approach to Preparing

- ▶ Make a list of the five or six most important milestone events the West has experienced between 1500 and the point we've reached in class.
  - CAUSES — Make sure you can identify the most important factors that helped cause these events — including long-term factors ("the environment") and short-term factors ("the spark")
  - LEGACIES — Make sure you can identify the legacies of the milestone event. How did it change the culture, society, etc.? What impact did it have on future milestones and events?
- ▶ For each of the questions below, see whether you have a strong idea how to answer it, an okay idea how to answer, or a weak sense of how to answer it. Review from the books and notes at least the "weak" ones.
- ▶ Take note of the terms and review ones you're unfamiliar with.
- ▶ Consider possible essay question topics and map out a few critical items you'd need to discuss for each topic.

## TOPICS

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### Atlantic Revolutions

- ▶ What are the origins of the American Revolution? What are the colonists fighting for? What is the impact of Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*?
- ▶ What arguments about government are made in the American Declaration of Independence?
- ▶ Why do the Americans create a confederation? How does it go wrong? Why do people oppose the Constitution?
- ▶ What impact does the American Revolution have on Europe? In what two ways does it help bring about the French Revolution?
- ▶ What are the causes of the French Revolution? Is one especially important in your opinion?
- ▶ Why does Louis XVI call the Estates-General? Why is this a dangerous move for him?
- ▶ Why do both the king and the National Assembly agree to war with Austria?
- ▶ Why does the French Revolution become more radical? What are the results of this radicalism?
- ▶ Why does the French Republic degenerate into a Reign of Terror?
- ▶ How is Napoleon the "son" of the French Revolution? How does he carry the Revolution's ideas forward? In what way does he undo what the Revolution had accomplished?
- ▶ What military tactics and innovations help Napoleon become the conqueror of Europe?
- ▶ TERMS: Stamp Act of 1765, Intolerable Acts, confederation, Shays's Rebellion, checks and balances, Bastille, natural rights, First Estate, Second Estate, Third Estate, Jacobins, sans-coulottes, Committee of Public Safety, Robespierre, republic of virtue, Thermidorean Reaction, battle of Waterloo

## Industrialization

- ▶ What is the "industrial revolution"?
- ▶ Why does it begin in Great Britain?
- ▶ What is its impact on class? on gender roles? on cities?
- ▶ How does the factory system develop?
- ▶ What are the key innovations in transportation? What impact does this have beyond manufacturing?
- ▶ What factors help the Industrial Revolution evolve from the first phase (textile in Britain) to the second phase (heavy industry spreading onto the Continent and America)? How is the need for coal, iron and steel for railroads involved?
- ▶ What changes in terms of the benefits of one's labor between the old economy and the industrial economy?
- ▶ In what way is the "working class" the product of the Industrial Revolution?
- ▶ What is the role of government in fostering the Industrial Revolution? How does this affect the workers and the attempts to form trade unions?
- ▶ How does the second Industrial Revolution differ from the first? What impact does it have on society?
- ▶ Terms: steam engine, bourgeois, proletariat, child labor, Luddites, internal combustion engine, second Industrial Revolution, white-collar jobs, trade unions

## Ferment of Ideology

- ▶ What was the purpose of the Congress of Vienna? What was its effect?
- ▶ What ideas were associated with 1800s conservatism? Why did it become dominant after 1815?
- ▶ What ideas were associated with liberalism? Socialism? Nationalism?
- ▶ What's meant by "utopian socialism"? Why did later thinkers like Marx scoff at it?
- ▶ What caused the revolutions of 1848?
- ▶ Why did these revolutions fail?
- ▶ What Great Powers avoided revolutions in 1848, and why?
- ▶ Terms: Congress of Vienna, Concert of Europe, balance of power, principle of intervention

## Nation-Building

- ▶ What were the causes of the American Civil War – long-term and immediate?
- ▶ Why would someone say the North won the war but lost the peace?
- ▶ How does the Crimean War relate to French ambition? Russian ambition? Austrian suspicion?
- ▶ What are the chief ideas of Marxism? How does it differ from socialism?
- ▶ How was "new" imperialism different from the old? How did it affect India? China? Africa?
- ▶ What's the connection between industrialization, nation-building, and imperialism?
- ▶ Why were the Austrians so concerned about unrest in the Balkans? What were the results of the Balkan Wars?
- ▶ Terms: manifest destiny, Franco-Prussian War, Napoleon III, Otto von Bismarck, *The Communist Manifesto*, natural selection, realism, white man's burden, pan-Slavism, Meiji Restoration

## Cultural Modernism

- ▶ What changes in science, philosophy, and psychology affected the Western reliance on rationalism?
- ▶ What problems did women encounter in gaining greater equality in the late 1800s?
- ▶ How did conservative politicians use political anti-Semitism to their advantage?
- ▶ Terms: relativity, Nietzsche's "God is dead", social "Darwinism", cubism, women's suffrage, Alfred Dreyfus

## World War I

- ▶ What are some of the long-term and immediate causes of World War I?
- ▶ Based on events leading up to the war, which nation in your opinion plays the biggest role in causing it?
- ▶ Why did the Schlieffen Plan fail?
- ▶ What role did the war have in the fall of the Czar? In Kerensky's provisional government that replaced him?
- ▶ In what ways is World War I a new kind of war?
- ▶ What were the effects of the Treaty of Versailles?
- ▶ Why did the U.S. stay out of the war? Why did it finally enter it?
- ▶ Terms: "the coming war," total war, no man's land, Battle of Ypres, Battle of the Somme, U-Boats, Bolsheviks, Soviets, reparations, League of Nations

## Fascism and Totalitarianism

- ▶ What are the chief characteristics of totalitarianism?
- ▶ How was Italian fascism under Mussolini similar to Nazi fascism under Hitler? How was it different?
- ▶ What were the causes of the Great Depression?
- ▶ What was Stalin's strategy to move the Soviet Union forward?
- ▶ What moves did Hitler make to consolidate his power and unify Germany under his rule?
- ▶ Terms: the New Deal, Weimar Republic, *Mein Kampf*, Nuremberg Laws, *Kristallnacht*, collectivization

## World War II

- ▶ Why did France and Britain hold back from confronting Hitler once Nazi Germany started expanding?
- ▶ Why were the Nazis so successful in the early stages of World War II?
- ▶ Why did Germany lose World War II? What role did Hitler's mistake have in ensuring Allied success?
- ▶ What efforts did the Nazis make to purge their society of unwanted peoples?
- ▶ Why did Japan attack Pearl Harbor?
- ▶ How did the U.S. decide to end the Pacific War the way they did?
- ▶ Terms: Aryan, appeasement, Sudetenland, Blitzkrieg, Hitler-Stalin non-aggression pact, Battle of Britain, Great East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, D-Day, the Final Solution, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, iron curtain