PS 50
Spring 2002
Study Guide for Final Exam

**Time:** Thursday June 13, 8:00-11:00 am

**Location:** Rolfe 1200 and Fowler A103B

**Format:** The final exam will be comprehensive, covering material from the entire course. It will contain the following:

- Nine short identification questions, which will be drawn from both the weekly list of key terms, and from the lectures. You will be asked to *both* define these terms and state, in a sentence or two, their significance. Each answer will be worth two points.
- Four essay topics – from which you must choose *three*. Each essay will be worth twenty-four points. The topics will closely follow the major themes in the lectures (see below). But remember that the best essays will draw on material from both the lectures and the readings.
- A ten-point question that requires you to demonstrate a specific skill, such as applying the cube law, or identifying a “minimum connected winning coalition.”

**How to prepare:** Make sure you understand the material covered in the lectures – and in the readings, *especially when they overlap with the lectures*. Material that is covered in the readings, but has not been touched on in the lectures, will be less important. It is important that you understand:

- how to define the key terms that are listed in each week’s discussion questions;
- The key terms used in the lectures, even if they aren’t on the weekly list;
- The significance of these key terms;
- How to apply the cube law, and identify a minimal connected winning coalition;
- Either the *causes*, or the *consequences*, or both, of the major things we have studied over the quarter, including:
  - Democracy
  - Presidential vs. parliamentary systems
  - Proportional representation vs. first-past-the-post electoral systems
  - Federalism
  - Wealth vs. poverty
  - The Welfare state
  - Globalization
  - Authoritarianism
  - Civil War