This exam will be multiple choice and written analysis. You can expect 50 multiple choice questions and 2-3 questions which require written answers. The 14 questions below serve as a study guide for the written analysis questions. The actual question(s) chosen will likely combine several of the questions below.

This is exam is cumulative in that it could cover all course material thus far. However, the material since the last quiz will be emphasized slightly more in the multiple choice chapters 6, 7, 8 and 4 web readings).

REMEMBER: The point of an exam is to evaluate the extent to which you grasp and understand the course material. You must make use of our class material (the discussions, lectures, handouts, texts, and online readings) in your answers. Demonstrate your understanding by using YOUR words and YOUR OWN examples. It is on that demonstration of understanding that your grade will be based.

YOU ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO STUDY THESE QUESTIONS IN GROUPS!!!!

You need to bring SCANTRON 886-E (“Mini-Essay Book”)

Sample questions for written analysis

1. What is meant by the term “the sociological imagination”? How can it be used to help one better understand society and the forces therein?

2. Describe functionalism as a theoretical perspective. On what assumptions is it based? How would this theory approach the increasing divorce rate in the US?

3. Describe conflict theory as a theoretical perspective. On what assumptions is it based? How would this theory approach the increasing divorce rate in the US?

4. Describe symbolic interactionism as a theoretical perspective. On what assumptions is it based? How would this theory approach the increasing divorce rate in the US?

5. Discuss how functionalism and conflict theory each explain culture. Be sure to identify the differences.

6. What is the relationship between values and norms? Illustrate the relationship by selecting one of the dominant values in American culture and identifying some of its associated norms.

7. How is language important in the development and transmission of culture? What is the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis? Why is it important in our understanding of how different cultures view their worlds?

8. Describe the concept of the "looking-glass self". Why are the cases of feral, isolated, and institutionalized children important to sociology and to our understanding of “the self”?

9. Explain sociologically why men in our society are likely to view their own bodies as "just about perfect" while women in our society are likely to view their own bodies as “imperfect”. Use the concepts (and theories) of the course.

10. What is an ascribed status? What is an achieved status? How might the life of someone whose statuses are mostly ascribed be different from the life of someone whose statuses are mostly achieved?

11. From the functionalist perspective, what are the major consequences of deviance? From the conflict perspective, how are capitalism and deviance related?

12. According to lecture, what does it mean to say: “Deviance is socially defined”? Additionally, explain the following 3 statements and give your own example of each: 1) “Deviance varies according to cultural norms”; 2) “Behavior becomes deviant only when others define it that way”; and 3) “Both rule making and rule breaking are impacted by issues of social power”

13. What do the findings of Chambliss’ research (“The Saints and the Roughnecks”) contribute to our understanding of deviance?

14. What does the film “The Times of Harvey Milk” (and the article “Class Struggle and the American Dream”) contribute to our understanding of deviance?