

Final Exam Study Guide

Living in a Pluralistic World: Anthro 340, Spring 2007

The final exam will be at 5:00 on Tuesday, May 22. The exam period is 110 minutes long. The exam is worth 20% of the possible points in the course (200 of 1000). It covers primarily *The Spirit Catches You* and *With These Hands*, plus ideas from earlier in the course that we have been using all along. Bring a blue book (or two) and any writing instrument you prefer. The exam calls for five short answers of one to three sentences, which you will select from a list of eight options. It also calls for three longer essays, which you will select from a list of four options. Some of these may involve applying ideas and information from the course to new material. These essays should be relatively well-developed discussions, for which you will have about 30 minutes each. Higher grades will go to essays that cover more material and discuss more angles; that are more creative or insightful; that are more logical, clear, and fully explained; that are better illustrated with examples; and generally that show greater mastery of the theoretical and substantive course material and thought about its implications.

Some concepts to be clear on:

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|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| culture | cultural relativism | arbitrary social construct | othering |
| society | ethical relativism | emic vs. etic point of view | adaptation |
| culture shock | multiculturalism | naïve realism | meaning |
| ethnocentrism | | real vs. ideal culture | system |

Consider not only what these terms mean, but also how they apply to the readings, and how they might be useful in practice.

To prepare for the final exam, review the course material, especially the last two books (Fadiman and Rothenberg) and the introductory conceptual readings and class presentations.

For each reading, ask yourself:

- What is the story or the argument?
- What are the main points of each chapter?
- Why is the author telling us this?
- What are the substantive facts that are important to understanding the argument or story?
- What roles do cultural differences play in these readings?
- What, exactly, are these cultural differences?
- How could the concepts listed above be relevant?
- What are some examples of each of the concepts listed above?
- How does the historical, political, and economic background help to explain the situation?
- How did anthropological insights or approaches affect the outcome, or how would they have if someone had thought to try?