

JSISA405/ANTH 449: Social Change in Asia  
Professor Sorensen  
April 26, 2019

**Study Sheet for**  
**Midterm**

The midterm is Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> during class. Bring a blue (or green) book. It will be all-essay. The midterm will have three parts:

- I. A short answer/definition section will ask you to write a 4-5 sentence paragraph defining a term listed either in this study sheet or on your other handouts (foreign terms, unless specifically listed on handouts are not required, but you are allowed to use them). You will have to define 5 terms out of a choice of 10. (20 points)
- II. A single descriptive essay (choice of two) in which you will be asked to describe a phenomenon or social institution that has been described in the readings and class. (15 points)
- III. A single interpretive essay (choice of two) in which you will be asked to formulate an argument about a point of interpretation discussed in class. There will be no single right or wrong answer for this question. (15 points)

The best exams will integrate class lecture with the readings. In the descriptive and interpretive essays I will look for specific references to the readings as I grade the answers, and will not give a 4.0 on any question that lacks specific references to the readings (page number not required, of course). Thus, as you study make sure you remember the name of each author in the readings so that you can mention what that author specifically said.

You will not be required to know East Asian words unless they are listed on this sheet, or handouts 1-3. Foreign words in square brackets [ ] are suggested but not required. Those of you who know Asian languages are free to use foreign words in any script in your exam, but *you have to use them properly and will be penalized if you use them improperly* (either because you misspelled them, wrote the wrong character, used them in the wrong context, or with the wrong meaning). There is no advantage in using foreign words, but some of you may find them convenient.

**Concepts to know: (be sure to be aware of which countries each term is relevant for)**

Taiwan Reversion  
Special Administrative Region  
(SAR)  
First Indochina War  
Second Indochina War  
Guomindang (KMT)  
Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)  
Environmental Kuznets Curve  
“Heaven” (in traditional China)  
Qi and li (in traditional China)  
Environmental-protection target-

responsibility system  
Minamata disease  
Itai-itai disease (Onsan sickness)  
Yokkaichi asthma  
Pollution Diet of 1970  
Third Phase Environmental  
Movement  
Leverage versus ideology in social  
movements  
“Independent candidates” (dangwai)  
in Taiwan  
Labor aristocracy  
Lifestyle pollution

### **Sample Description and Interpretive Questions**

(1) Know the material on Handout #1 and be able to list and rank-order the countries of East Asia by the dimensions listed on the handout including form of government. Be able to use this information to characterize the significance of Japan, South Korea, North Korea, the PRC, Taiwan, or Vietnam in the current world system. Think about how you would use these indicators to talk about something interesting.

(2) Be prepared to explain how the postwar system of a divided Korea and China and a united Vietnam emerged (eventually) out of the ashes of World War II. Why is Taiwan not recognized as sovereign by the United Nations?

(3) Be prepared to compare and contrast three competing view of nature: (1) the traditional view of a landscape full of qi and spiritual animals, (2) the disenchanted world of commodities to be used for development, (3) the romantic view of nature as something to be preserved for its own sake.

(4) Why does Weller think that convergence through the spread of modernity and globalism is a factor that can easily be overemphasized in explaining current discourse about the environment in Taiwan and the PRC?

(5) What was Mao’s view of nature, and what reasons does Judith Shapiro give for this view leading to major environmental destruction? Do these reasons apply to North Korea as well?

(6) How did the American system of national parks develop? What are the characteristics of American-style national parks compared to those of Japan or Taiwan?

(7) Why does Weller think that Taiwan national forests are more Japanese-influenced than Taiwan national parks? Do you agree?

(8) What is the United National Model (IUCN) for nature preservation, and how does it differ now from the American model? What reasons does Weller give for the PRC following the UN model more than the American model?

- (9) What does Weller identify as specifically Chinese ways of appreciating nature today?
- (10) Why is garbage more of an issue in industrial society than it was in preindustrial society?
- (11) What is distinctive about Taiwan's industrialization and urbanization compared with that of South Korea in terms of firm size, distribution, and urbanization patterns?
- (12) Be prepared to compare and contrast Taiwan and China environmental protest in terms of the ladder of escalation, the manner of political mobilization, the relationship to environmental administration, and the role of national NGOs.
- (13) Both Weller and Tilt emphasize the importance of competing priorities of higher and local government in complicating environmental policy. Weller says, "There are policies from above, and countermeasures from below." What does this mean? Tilt sees three pillars of environmental action. What are they? Give examples of the dynamics of this interaction and how it hinders or helps environmental policy in both Taiwan and the PRC.
- (14) What are the reasons Liu claims that South Korea and Taiwan are good countries to compare in the development of labor and environmental movements?
- (15) How does Liu contrast the power of labor and environmental movements, and their direction of movement? Is this convincing? Why does Liu think that grievance alone is not enough to start a social movement?
- (16) How can you recognize a social movement, and when does Liu think a social movement emerges?
- (17) How does Liu explain the late development of a labor movement in Taiwan? Be sure to consider the size and distribution of enterprises, whether workers could "opt out", the KMT's "incorporationist" attitude toward labor, and KMT's ways of mediating labor disputes.
- (18) How did Taiwan respond to its "crisis of legitimacy" 1971-9 when China's UN seat was transferred to the PRC and the US also recognized the PRC.
- (19) Why does Liu think Taiwan's "incorporationist" policy not work for the environment?
- (20) How does Liu explain the early development of a labor movement in South Korea? Be sure to consider the size and distribution of enterprises, the movement of workers, exclusion of labor from politics, and the failure of compulsory arbitration.
- (21) How does Liu explain the late development of an environmental movement in South Korea?
- (22) To what extent have environmental movements in Taiwan and South Korea developed similarly to those of Japan? (Interpretive Question).
- (21) Why does Liu think an Urban/Rural Cross class coalition was necessary for an environmental movement to emerge in Taiwan?

(22) What is the main difference between the way labor movements developed in Taiwan and South Korea from their earlier Euro-American counterparts?

(23) What organizational resources did Korean labor have that Taiwanese labor seemed to lack?

(24) What does Liu see as the current problems and future of the labor and environmental movements in Taiwan and South Korea? What are the changes they face and how are they adapting to them.

(25) Do you think democracy is necessary for a society to develop a robust labor and/or environmental movement? Do you think such a movement is necessary to address working conditions and environment destruction?