1. Assess the relative importance of interests, institutions, and ideas in the formation of NATO and its expansion since 1989?

2. To what extent have political parties in the US and Britain behaved in ways that fit the Median Voter Theorem’s predictions since the 1980s? Are there other political science concepts discussed in this course that better help us understand whether and under what conditions politicians will cater to the median voter? What are they?

3. How does Albert Hirschman’s framework of exit, voice, and loyalty help explain the divergent experiences of the Soviet Union on the one hand and of China and Vietnam on the other in pursuing reform in the since the 1980s?

4. It has been suggested that the price of reducing absolute poverty might be increased relative inequality. Do you agree? Why or why not? Make sure to address issues of loss aversion, prospects for gain, and different types of relative standing in your answer.

5. Are there some goods and services that should be provided by government even if we agree that privatization always leads to a more efficient provision? Discuss with reference to local government and either prisons or the military.

6. Identify two potential threats to the stability of Communist Party rule in China. How might the regime try to head them off, and how successful is it likely to be? What does your answer tell you about the usefulness of modernization theory?