Directions:

- Please put your Student ID number at the top of each page of your examination. **DO NOT write your name anywhere on the examination.**

- Number your pages consecutively for the entire examination.

- Submit a cover page with your responses that lists the following: ID number, type of exam completed (e.g. MA major, MA minor) and examination area, as well as the semester in which you are taking the exam.

- Cite sources throughout your essay, where appropriate, using standard format and provide a single bibliography that includes all the materials used in preparing your answers.

- Clearly label each answer with the number of question you are answering.

- Budget your time carefully, including time to think and organize while preparing and writing the answers. Focus on preparing coherent, well-organized essays that not only demonstrate your mastery of the literature, but also indicate how the literature expands our collective knowledge.

- Students are expected to work independently on this examination and not discuss the essay items and responses with others. Any questions about exam procedures should be directed to the convener.

MA Majors – please answer the question in Part A and **two** questions from Part B.

MA Minors – please answer the question in Part A and **one** question from Part B.
Part A

How would different theoretical traditions (e.g., Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, Marxism) interpret the implications of the rise of China for the future of international politics? In your view, which of these assessments is the most persuasive? Why?

Part B

1. You have been asked to contribute an essay for the most recent HANDBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS on "Balance of Power Theory." Your task is to sketch out the main elements of the theory, evaluate the state of empirical research on the theory, and highlight some of the major critiques. Your essay is to be no longer than 10 double-spaced typed pages.

2. Bruce Russett has argued that if Democratic Peace Theory is proven to be correct, the theoretical edifice of realism will come crashing to the ground. Is he right? Why or why not?

3. Given that there is no central authority to enforce agreements among sovereign states, why do states cooperate? Discuss the problems of anarchy for international cooperation and detail the theoretical mechanisms thought to overcome these problems.

4. What is the democratic peace? Discuss the debate linking regime type to international conflict behavior. What role does regime type play in models of the causes of war? Be sure to fully develop the various positions in the debate about regime type and conflict.

5. Write an essay that describes the theory or theories of imperialism and explain what contribution they make for the study of international relations. And, if not, why not?

6. Politicians as varied as neocons and President Obama lionize Theodore Roosevelt for his wise assessment of the relationship between power and influence in the international system. For others Roosevelt launched the United States global empire. Discuss Theodore Roosevelt and US foreign policy in the twentieth century. Has it been a wise realistic power or an imperialist power?

7. Increasingly, the United States fights its wars using unmanned aerial vehicles or “drones.” Other countries are expected to follow suit. Do drones present challenges to traditional theories of international relations? If so, why? If not, why not? Be sure to refer to specific authors and works in your answer.

8. What do we know about the American public’s attitudes about the use of force abroad and what does this research suggest about support for possible a ground war waged by U.S. forces against Islamist forces in Iraq and Syria?
9. International law is a more or less viable strategy in securing “world order”. Beginning with a carefully developed and productive definition of world order, write an essay in which you then explain how international law can best ensure our long-term planetary wellbeing and survival. Be sure to begin with an explicit hypothesis, and to characterize carefully the relevant institutions and processes of international law.

10. In the final analysis, all world politics is epiphenomenal, and expression of individual human strengths and infirmities. To what extent, if any, does this mean that any genuine world order reform must be carried out at the individual (as opposed to institutional) level? What precise and feasible human transformations are necessary to save us from incessant war, terrorism and genocide? If you believe that only structural and systemic changes are called for, what precise and feasible institutional remedies are required? Be sure that your arguments proceed from explicit hypotheses, and that pertinent literatures are referenced.