POLI310 – Fall 2012 – Final Exam

- We started this class with pre-cursors to the 20th Century, followed by a brief walk-through of the 20th Century, then we spent the rest of the semester prior to the novels examining the last Century through the lenses of many different political ideologies. We also did in-depth analyses of Bellamy and Zamyatin about the direction in which they felt society was going.
- One way to discuss and predict the future, is to follow the trajectory set by history.
- In this exam, I want you to predict and explain the global trends of the next 50 years based on your interpretation of the trajectory set by the 20th Century as a manifestation of the political ideologies discussed in this class and in the readings. Be creative, even have fun w/ it. While I want it based on the trajectory you set up, you can also do it like Bellamy. Say you wake up 50 years from now, what will the US look like and why – how did we get there?
- You should lay out a concrete explanation of the 20th Century via political ideologies then give an in-depth prediction of how that trajectory will play out in the world over the next 50 years.
- All Final Exams are due by Wednesday Dec. 12th by the start of class at 2:15pm.
- Exams must be hard copy and brought to class to be used in the discussion.
- All exams must be typed. Papers not typed will not be accepted.
- All exams must be fully cited using MLA format. Any paper not properly and fully cited will receive an F. For citing class notes, you can just use my name, the date of the lecture, and “Class Notes” as the title, or if you don’t have the date, use the page number from the powerpoint packet. For the movies, just use the title of the film.
- The following is the grading rubric I will be using to grade the papers. The exam is worth 250 points:
  - First check - citations – if incorrect, automatic F
  - Grammar and spelling – 20 points
  - Organization – 30 points
  - Flow, articulate writing style – 30 points
  - Introduction and conclusion sections – quality of summarization – 20 points
  - The body of the paper will be graded on: – 150 points
    - Demonstration of understanding of the political ideologies and their historical contexts
    - Depth of coverage of the above
    - quality of discussion – how well you explain yourself
    - logical flow to make prediction
    - use of multiple examples and theories from a variety of sources used in the class (text, novels, presentations, discussions, movies, and class notes)
    - Depth, explanation of why it will occur, logic and specificity of prediction
- Overall, you will follow a typical paper format (this is essay by the way, not bullet point). Tell me what you’re going to tell me, tell me, and tell me what you told me: Intro, body, conclusion. At the same time, be creative!
- Best papers will:
  - Demonstrate a clear understanding of the ideologies and their historical contexts
  - Give specific examples of these
  - Make a logical argument of the flow from the 20th Century through the first half of the 21st Century.
  - Give specific hypothesized examples of the trends you describe for the future.
  - Incorporate and/or refute Bellamy’s and Zamyatin’s ideas.
  - The best papers will be those that are insightful, interesting, and creative. I know it’s weird to say “have fun” on a final exam, but try it!
- The conclusion section will summarize and conclude your analysis.