PART I: IDENTIFICATIONS

FOUR of THESE will be selected for you to answer. Two points each.

Answers should identify the person, group, place, concept, theory, event, or item in several paragraphs. Answers should include a description as well as an assessment of the significance of the term to this class. In other words, why are we studying it? How is it relevant to the history of Vietnam and the French and American wars? (NOTE: Significance MUST be included in order to receive full credit.) When formulating your answers think in terms of what, who, why, where, when, and how.

Khmer Rouge
Easter Offensive
Paris Peace Agreement
In Retrospect
Geneva Accords
Creighton Abrams
“Ohio”
Vietnamization
Pentagon Papers
Nguyen Van Thieu
Tet Offensive
Provisional Revolutionary Government
Re-education Camps
Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs
Vietnam Veterans Against the War
Dith Pran
Agent Orange
Vietnam Veterans Memorial

PART II: ESSAY QUESTIONS

TWO of THESE will be selected for you to answer. Six points each.

These questions are provided in advance so you can prepare yourself as thoroughly as possible to write coherent essays. The best essays will integrate substantial material from the lectures and the readings and demonstrate your ability to explain the important processes at work. Think in terms of concepts, patterns of behavior, divergent worldviews and perspectives, and the ways that particular historical experiences can help you demonstrate that you understand “what happened.” Be sure to cite relevant facts from the readings and/or lectures to support your argument. In other words, demonstrate the validity of your point of view; do not merely assert it.

1. Drawing on ample evidence from the historical record, explain why you believe the Vietnamese revolutionaries ultimately defeated the United States and the Saigon government.

2. In Kill Anything That Moves, Nick Turse argues that the My Lai Massacre was not an aberration. Why?

3. How did American actions in Southeast Asia contribute to what happened in Cambodia between 1975 and 1979? How did U.S. policy vis-à-vis Vietnam affect the Khmer Rouge insurgency after 1979?

4. How did Richard Nixon attempt to bring about an end to American military participation in Vietnam? How did his Cambodia policies complicate this plan?

5. How could the divisions and tensions that emerged within Duong Van Mai Elliott’s family symbolize the larger divisions that have characterized colonial and postcolonial Vietnamese history? Be sure to draw on specific evidence from her book as well as the other course readings.