Marking Period 4 Essential Question and Final Exam

One of the major questions historians confront when thinking about the second half of the twentieth century (after 1945) is how much the United States has influenced global regions, and why American influence is accepted in some places more than in others.

We often assume that the American Way (democracy, capitalism, and the culture that comes along with both—freedom of expression, value of uniqueness and individuality, secularism, material wealth as a measure of success) is the Best Way to conduct a society. The purpose of this marking period is not to argue that there is a problem with the American Way, but to make you think about what other models of government, economics, and culture have been adopted around the world, why they’ve been adopted, and then for you to evaluate the success of that adoption – all, of course, based on historical evidence.

Marking Period 4 ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

How & Why was a Western model of cultural, economic, and/or political development accepted or rejected in various nations after 1945?

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT FOR MARKING PERIOD 4: FINAL EXAM

Final Exam Essay Prompt:

As Nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East emerged into the modern world (post 1945) they faced numerous economic, political and cultural challenges. To what extent did the “Third World” (the nations from the areas mentioned above) adopt a Western model of cultural, economic, and/or political development (i.e., capitalism and democracy, “Western” or “American” ways of life) and why? You should use at least two case studies and seven (7) documents from this marking period to support your thesis.

Acceptable Case Studies:
- Asia (Afghanistan, China)
- Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Palestinians, Syria)
- Africa (Angola, Congo, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa)
- Latin America (Cuba)

Students will write an essay that will be assessed using the Grade 9 Historical Writing Rubric on the final exam. Students will be given a week of class time in advance of the final exam to prepare the prompt using the House Graphic Organizer. This House Graphic Organizer (or another approved outline) should be filled out in advance of the exam and brought into the exam.

Students will also be allowed to bring in their annotated documents that were provided throughout the marking period. Acceptable annotations include 1) annotations/notes on the
readings themselves and/or answers to teacher-provided questions and 2) SOAPSTone, as appropriate. Students must submit any annotated documents they use and their outlines/House Graphic Organizers at the end of the test.