

**HISTORY OF VIETNAM  
FINAL EXAMINATION SPRING, 1994**

**ESSAY QUESTIONS:** Answer any **TWO (2)** of the following questions in your bluebook.

1. Some veteran's expressed their attitudes toward the Vietnam War through poetry. You have read Document 2, what was Ehrhart saying? What images did he create? What was his attitude toward the war? How can you tell? What issue concerns him the most?
2. The controversy over the Vietnam War has continued, even to the point of a quarrel over the proper way to commemorate the war dead. Having read Document 3, the question of artistic expression is discussed.  
What was the difference between the two images which were described? What do most war monuments look like? Have they reflected the artistic modes of the their time? Should the Vietnam Memorial be any different? Why or why not? What is the purpose of building the memorial in the first place? What do you think it should express?

3. Historians have long argued that what really happened in the past is not nearly as important as what people think happened. What do they mean by that? Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Have your views of the Vietnam War been changed by taking this course? How? Is the study of history worth anything?

4. Having read Documents 9-10, and 12-19 they tried to look back and make meaning out of the Vietnam War. The perspectives of the speakers vary greatly, and so do their conclusions.

What do you do with so many conflicting views? With whom did you agree? With whom did you disagree? Why?

Did the speakers make any of the same assumptions? Where did they differ from each other?

What are your conclusions?