Note: This guide does not represent the totality of material covered in the second half of the course. It is intended as a starting point as you begin studying for the exam, not as an exhaustive list of topics that may be included on the exam. The authors listed under each topic are not necessarily the only relevant sources. Likewise, the authors’ contributions are not necessarily limited to the topics their names appear next to.

I. Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration
   a. Race/Ethnicity Gaps in Academic Achievement and Attainment (Kao & Thompson; Zhou)
      i. What has been the pattern in white-minority academic inequality since the 1970s?
      ii. What family background factors account for the largest portions of the educational race gaps?
         1. Structural factors
         2. Cultural factors
      iii. The Burden of Acting White (Fordham & Ogbu; Tyson et al.; Lewis)
         1. Evidence for
         2. Arguments against
      iv. Stereotype threat (Steele)
   b. Racial Segregation
      i. What is its history in the U.S.? (Hochschild; Coleman)
      ii. What are its consequences?
   c. Immigrant Experiences (Zhou)
      i. Contemporary vs. Historical immigration trends in the U.S.
      ii. Theories of assimilation
         1. Traditional (aka, “straight-line”)
         2. Cultural Pluralism
         3. Segmented Assimilation
      iii. How do differing contexts affect children of immigrants’ educational opportunities and the benefits associated with assimilation?
         1. Family contexts
         2. Neighborhood contexts
II. Gender Inequalities
   a. Differences between boys’ and girls’ performance (Thorne; Buchmann et al.; DiPrete and Jennings)
   b. Differential returns to higher ed. Among men and women (Michelson; Bobitt-Zeher)

III. School Reform
   a. Post-1983 History of School Reform
      i. Political and Educational motivations (A Nation at Risk)
      ii. Important legislation (NCLB; Race to The Top; Common Core)
   b. Charter Schools and Vouchers
      i. Rationale for offering school choice (Renzulli & Roscigno)
      ii. Potential pitfalls of charter schooling (Renzulli & Roscigno; Jennings)
   c. Where should school reform focus?
      i. Test-Based Accountability (NCLB; Common Core; Diamond & Spillane; Jennings)
      ii. Berliner’s perspective