This initial exercise is intended to re-familiarize you with some of the basic geography of both the U. S. and the world, particularly with volcanically active locales we'll be visiting, seeing in videos, or discussing in class. It is a take-home exercise and you are STRONGLY urged to use an atlas or other good reference if you are unsure about the location of any place I've asked you to locate. [Atlases may be found in the reference sections of Miller and Olin libraries, as well as on-line; printed atlases all have indexes that can speed your search for unfamiliar places.]

This exercise is due NO LATER THAN 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 7th; late papers will not be accepted except in extreme circumstances. NOTE: since this IS a take-home, open-book exercise, 3 points will be deducted for the first major error (e.g., labeling Hawai'i "Tahiti" or leaving a feature unlabeled); **no credit will be given at all for the exercise if there is MORE than one significant error of this kind.** PLEASE use a fine-tipped pencil or pen and write neatly, so your labels don't overlap and can be easily understood. If the feature or locality is small, write your label in an open area and draw a sharp arrow to the location of that feature.

The following page contains two maps for the exercise, one of the United States and one of the world. You may find it useful to cross each locality off the lists below as you mark its location on the appropriate map.

**This material will appear on both exams.**

**On the map of the U.S., please locate and properly label:**

- Each of the 48 states in the continental U.S. (label both peninsulas of Michigan)
  
  **TWO-LETTER POSTAL CODES ARE ACCEPTABLE IF THEY ARE CORRECT!**
  
  e.g., Don't use 'MA' for Maine or 'AK' for Arkansas!

- Each of the eight bordering Canadian provinces (including Nova Scotia)

- Each of the five Great Lakes (draw it in)

- Yellowstone National Park

- Los Angeles, California

**On the map of the world, please indicate the precise location of each of the following features or places:**

- Alaska
- Hawai'i
- Anchorage, Alaska
- Alaskan Peninsula
- New Zealand
- Java
- Sumatra
- Seward Peninsula
- Andes Mountains
- Italy
- Montserrat [island]
- Aegean Sea
- Martinique (island)
- Siberia
- Sicily
- Mediterranean Sea
- Panama
- India
- Japan
- Kuril Islands
- New Guinea
- Sunda Strait
- Kamchatka
- Tahiti
- Aleutian Islands (appear at both sides of map; label both)
- Galápagos Islands
- Azores Islands
- Tanzania
- Cameroon
- Kenya
- Australia
- Taiwan
- Chile
- Colombia
- Nicaragua
- Guatemala
- Caribbean Sea
- Mauritius & Reunion (Islands)
- Ecuador
- Philippine Islands
- Iceland
- Costa Rica
- Netherlands
- Cape Verde Islands
- Canary Islands
- Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire - not the Republic of Congo - a different country!)

>>> **PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR SPELLING!!!** <<<

**NOTE:** Please hand in the stapled two-page set intact (including this sheet); put your name on both sheets, in the spaces provided, in case they become separated.
Young adults in the United States fail to understand the world and their place in it, according to a survey-based report on geographic literacy released today.

Take Iraq, for example. Despite nearly constant news coverage since the war there began in 2003, 63 percent of Americans aged 18 to 24 failed to correctly locate the country on a map of the Middle East. Seventy percent could not find Iran or Israel.

Nine in ten couldn't find Afghanistan on a map of Asia. And 54 percent were unaware that Sudan is a country in Africa.

Remember the December 2004 tsunami and the widespread images of devastation in Indonesia? Three-quarters of respondents failed to find that country on a map. And three-quarters were unaware that a majority of Indonesia's population is Muslim, making it the largest Muslim country in the world.

"Young Americans just don't seem to have much interest in the world outside of the U.S.,” said David Rutherford, a specialist in geography education at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. (National Geographic News is part of the National Geographic Society.)

New York City-based Roper Public Affairs conducted the survey for the National Geographic Society. In total, Roper carried out 510 interviews between December 17, 2005, and January 20, 2006. The average respondent answered 54 percent of the questions correctly.

"Alarming." "Discouraging" Results

"The Roper poll is alarming, as it has been continuously for the past several years," said Douglas Richardson, executive director of the Association of American Geographers in Washington, D.C. Richardson added that geographic knowledge is essential for survival in our rapidly globalizing world, a notion that is beginning to gain traction at the university level, where enrollment in geography classes is up.

"We need to really now catch up in offering the foundation for students in geography in the middle schools and the high schools," he said.

Survey results published in 2002 were also disappointing. The 2002 project also surveyed 18- to 24-year-olds in Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, and Great Britain. The U.S. trailed every other country in that survey, except Mexico, which did only slightly worse.

"It's discouraging that so many young Americans have so little understanding of the world," said Robert Pastor, vice president of international affairs at American University in Washington, D.C.

Geography Schmeography?

Even for U.S. geography, the survey results are just as dismal.

Half could not find New York State on a map of the United States.

A third of the respondents could not find Louisiana, and 48 percent couldn't locate Mississippi on a map of the United States, even though Hurricane Katrina put these southeastern states in the spotlight in 2005.

Many young Americans also lack basic map-reading skills.

Told they could escape an approaching hurricane by evacuating to the northwest, only two-thirds could indicate which way northwest is on a map.

Perhaps even more worrisome is the finding that few U.S. young adults seem to care. Fewer than three in ten think it's absolutely necessary to know where countries in the news are located. Only 14 percent believe speaking another language fluently is a necessary skill.

Fewer than one in five young Americans own a world map.

This geographic ineptitude was further emphasized when young Americans were asked questions on how the United States fits into the wider world.

Three in ten respondents put the U.S. population between one and two billion (it's just under 300 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau). Seventy-four percent said English is the most commonly spoken native language in the world (it's Mandarin Chinese).……..