

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER MAY, 2005

TITLE OF PAPER : **HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICA**

COURSE CODE : **H305**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS : **1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS, CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION.**

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A**QUESTION 1**

Before the imposition of Spanish colonial rule in Latin America, Amerindian had made numerous achievements in different fields. Discuss these achievements.

QUESTION 2

It has been argued that political organization, type of leadership, the Reconquest, and the inquisitive nature of European society in the fifteenth century played an important role in Spanish expansion overseas. Discuss this view.

QUESTION 3

Discuss the external and internal factors that assisted the conquistadores to conquer well developed and successful Amerindian empires.

QUESTION 4

Some scholars have argued that Portugal's movement toward the colonization of Brazil can be characterized as reluctant imperialism. Critically discuss this view.

SECTION B**QUESTION 5**

Discuss the factors behind the demands for independence in Latin America at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

QUESTION 6

Immediately after independence the majority of the new Latin American states were very insecure. Critically analyze the issues behind such insecurity.

QUESTION 7

Critically discuss the concepts of liberation and conservatism and their relevancy to political and economic transformation in nineteenth century Latin America.

QUESTION 8

Critically analyze the approaches to economic development adopted by most Latin American leaders at the beginning of the second half of the nineteenth century.