

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

TITLE OF PAPER : **HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1865**

COURSE CODE : **H406/IDE H406**

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**

- Either:** (a) Compare and contrast the presidential reconstruction with the congressional reconstruction of 1865-1877.
- Or:** (b) What constitutional problems delayed the process of reconstruction in the United States and to what extent did reconstruction favour ex-slaves?

QUESTION 2

Account for the rapid industrial growth in the United States in the period from 1865-1900.

QUESTION 3

Why did the United States delay entry into the First World War and why did she ultimately join this war? What was her contribution towards the victory of the Allied powers in this war?

QUESTION 4

What factors led to the end of economic prosperity of the United States in the 1920s? Why did the great depression last so long?

SECTION B**QUESTION 5**

Examine the strengths and weaknesses of the following:

- (a) Agricultural Adjustment Act.
- (b) Civilian Conservation Corps.
- (c) Social Security Act.

To what extent did the New Deal succeed in combating the Great Depression?

QUESTION 6

What do you understand by the phrase "Soviet Containment"? Explain how Soviet containment was maintained until the 1990s.

QUESTION 7

What was the Watergate scandal and why did it lead to the resignation of Richard Nixon as the U.S. President in 1974?

QUESTION 8

Examine factors that led to the end of the Cold War in the 1990s.