

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY, 2006**

**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**

Use the concept of sedentarism to classify the different Amerindian groups found in Latin America before conquest by the Iberian Kingdoms.

### **QUESTION 2**

Discuss the importance of the Reconquest and political unity in Spain's expansion into Latin America.

### **QUESTION 3**

It has been argued that Spain's administration of her Latin American empire at the beginning of the colonial period was largely by trial and error. Discuss this statement, showing why systems of administration were constantly changed.

### **QUESTION 4**

The majority of land owners in colonial Spanish America have sometimes been referred to as neo-feudal lords. Discuss this to show the characteristics of the rural social structure in colonial Spanish America.

## **SECTION B**

### **QUESTION 5**

Some scholars have pointed out that philosophy played an important role in sharpening Creole resentment of Spanish colonialism in Latin America. Demonstrate how philosophy shaped the thinking of Creoles and how it made them to be opposed to continued Spanish colonial rule.

### **QUESTION 6**

The Mexican struggle for independence between 1811 and 1815 was a grassroots movement with a clear middle class leadership. Critically discuss the weaknesses of this movement and explained why it failed to bring about the independence of Mexico.

### **QUESTION 7**

The movement of Brazil to independence in the 1820s was very different from what happened in the Spanish American colonies. Account for this difference and explain why the Brazilian path to independence had inherent contradictions.

### **QUESTION 8**

From the time the majority of Latin American territories achieved independence, their relationship with the United States was shaped by United States interests. Use specific examples to discuss this view.