

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY  
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2009**

**TITLE OF PAPER : HISTORY OF THE USA SINCE 1865**

**COURSE CODE : H406/IDE H406**

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

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS  
CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE 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 one**

Assess the successes and failures of Reconstruction in the United States between 1865 and 1877. [25 marks]

### **Question two**

How was the American economy transformed between 1870 and 1900? [25 marks]

### **Question three**

In the late nineteenth century, was the United States essentially isolationist or essentially expansionist or pursued both policies? [25 marks]

### **Question four**

What social, economic and political factors fostered the progressive movement at the beginning of the twentieth century? [25 marks]

## **SECTION B**

### **Question five**

What were the main sources of economic growth in the United States during the 1920s? [25 marks]

### **Question six**

Discuss the psychological and physical effects of the Great Depression in the United States. [25 marks]

### **Question seven**

Critically analyze America's decision to use atomic war-fare against Japan during World War II. [25 marks]

### **Question eight**

Discuss the different competing interpretations for the origins of the Cold War. [25 marks]