

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER DECEMBER, 2013**

**TITLE OF PAPER : HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES: 1865-1920**

**COURSE CODE : H422/IDE H422**

**TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS**

**2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

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

**Question 1**

How did the division and sectionalism between the Northern and Southern states in America eventually explode into civil war in 1861? How significant was Abraham Lincoln's election as American President in convincing the South into seceding from the rest of the Union?

**[25 marks]**

**Question 2**

Assess the performance of Republican rule in the South between 1867 and 1877. Why did white Southerners reject Radical Reconstruction?

**[25 marks]**

**Question 3**

Discuss the pre-requisites that were responsible for America's rapid economic transformation during the last three decades of the 19th century?

**[25 marks]**

**Question 4**

Discuss the main economic, political, historical and racial arguments that were used to oppose American overseas expansion in the first 20 years after the American Civil War. **[25 marks]**

**Question 5**

Give an account of the reasons raised by the United States to justify its decision not to join the First World War in August 1914. What was the long and immediate sequence of events that eventually led to American involvement in the War in 1917? **[25 marks]**