United States Ph.D. Written Qualifying Examination
Fall 2004
Wednesday, September 22 8:00am-5:00pm

This exam is designed to take eight hours to complete. Answer one question from each section (three questions in all). The questions in Part I and Part II should each require about three hours to answer. The question in Part III, dealing with historiography, should require about two hours. You may not use any notes, books, articles or other reference materials during the eight hour period.

Remember
- Make sure that all pages are numbered and that your identification number is on each page
- Please include a cover page that indicates which questions you are answering
- You are expected to demonstrate that you have a familiarity with a range of topics and periods. It is important that you keep this in mind as you select your questions and formulate your answers. Avoid answering questions that cover the same material.
- Your completed exam must be returned to the history graduate office by 5:00 PM on September 22.

Part I: Select ONE out of the following three questions

1. There is growing consensus that globalization is not a new phenomenon, if we define globalization to be a high degree of interconnectedness among the nations of the world. Historians have long recognized that these kinds of interconnections have ebbed and flowed over the centuries. On the one hand, globalization has been fostered by national rivalries, the forces of capitalist expansion, and desire for the fruits of international exchange. On the other, it has been stalled by dislocations caused by the resulting flows of population, goods, and capital. Discuss the extent to which such a long-term view might usefully illuminate American history over at least three centuries.

2. One of the challenges faced by anyone teaching the American History Survey is to integrate recent scholarship by social and cultural historians, with coverage of political developments at the national level. What themes would you use to tie together these very different levels of experience from the colonial period to the twentieth century?

3. If you were to write a history of the United States from a multi-regional perspective (rather than the "normal" national one), what would that history look like over the past three centuries? Be sure to consider the political and economic as well as the social and cultural dimensions in your account.
work? What are the uses, and the limits, of the subaltern notion of resistance for illuminating the American historical experience?

4. Identify one historian whose work you think has been particularly influential and discuss how her or his work has transformed historical scholarship.