RUSSIA SINCE CA. 800

Please answer one question from Part I and one question from Part II. You are allowed a total of 4 hours to complete this exam (two hours per question.) You are on your honor not to consult any materials, including notes or papers or anything stored in your computer. You are also on your honor not to discuss the exam or its content with any faculty or student until the exam period is over.

PART I
1) Discuss the process of the enserfment of the Russian peasantry.

2) “The seventeenth century in Russia is best understood as having constituted a kind of national identity crisis.” (Edward Keenan) Discuss.

3) Discuss the relationship between the state and the nobility (dvorianstvo) in Russia beginning with the eighteenth century.

4) What were the chief legacies and failings of Emancipation? Discuss for the period 1861-1907.

5) The revolution of 1905-1907 and its results have often been called “ambiguous” by historians. Discuss.

PART II
1) Historiography of the Stalin period has recently touched on how individuals related to the regime in terms of support, resistance, accommodation, and identity. Discuss recent writings on this question.

2. Discuss the historiography on the October Revolution of 1917.

3. Discuss the process leading up to the collectivization of agriculture in the Soviet Union, indicating various historians’ views.

4. Discuss and analyze writings on the Great Terror of the 1930s, indicating the major areas of disagreement.

5. Historians have described (and disagreed on) what appear to be significant political changes in the Soviet leadership in the period between the end of World War II and the death of Stalin. Discuss these changes, referring to the works of specific historians.