Answer one question from Part I and two questions from Part II. You must do a total of three (3) questions. Be sure each essay has a clear line of argument, addresses as many dimensions of the question as possible, and offers relevant, persuasive evidence from specific secondary sources wherever appropriate. Good luck!

Part I. Please answer one of the two questions below.

1. Historian Rayford Logan termed the period from 1877 to 1917 the Nadir of the African American experience. He used that concept to signify that the era was one in which Blacks were incorporated into the southern plantation economy as super-exploited sharecroppers, experienced a revocation of their recently won constitutional rights, became the subject of ridicule and contempt in the popular culture and were subjected to racial terrorism in the form of urban pogroms and lynching. In discussing the Nadir, it is important that you identify the role of racial violence in structuring the African American experience during this era. You should also explicate Black agency and resistance to both urban pogroms and lynching during the Nadir. Be sure to identify the major events of urban racial terror and the key years and critical lynching episodes during the sociohistorical period.

2. Provide a comprehensive discussion of your proposed dissertation project, and the multiple ways in which it potentially contributes to the extant scholarship on racial violence in the 20\textsuperscript{th} Century. Be sure to provide an overview of the state of the literature in this area.

Part II: Please answer two of the three questions below.

3. You have been contacted by a prominent university press to edit collection entitled, Black Workers in Urban America, 1910 to 1980. In organizing the collection, the press wants you to include article that discusses the major theoretical and methodological issues facing scholars interested in the African American workers. By providing examples from prominent journal articles and monographs, please discuss at least four themes around which you would organize this collection.

4. Of late the historians are reconceptualizing the Civil Rights movement as the Black Freedom movement or the Black Freedom struggle. Other scholars are reconceptualizing it as a phase of this broader reconceptualization. At the heart of these reconceptualizations is the question of historical periodization. Many historians have adopted the concept of the “long Civil Rights movement,” thus expanding the movements’ traditional boundaries beyond the era encapsulated from
1954-1965. Highlight the major debates on the long Civil Rights movement. Provide your own argument as to the periodization of the civil rights/Black Power movements. Reference region, class, gender, and politics-local and national- where appropriate.

5. African American urban history when combined with urban studies is perhaps the largest single area of scholarship in African American Studies. Conceptual and methodological developments in this subfield often influence the theoretical paradigms and methodologies that come to shape African American history and Black Studies more broadly. Three such concepts are agency, community building, and proletarianization. Sometimes they are used collectively but often scholars utilize one or two but not all three concepts. Trace the development of these three concepts and their rise to paradigmatic status in the subfield of African American urban history since the publication of W.E.B. Du Bois’s *The Philadelphia Negro* in 1899 to the contemporary moment. Be sure to chart the seminal works, major historiographic trends, and to highlight the dialogue between advocates of agency, community and/or proletarianization and other scholars and schools of thought.