Part I. Respond to the following question:
1) In 1999, scholars debated the meaning (and strengths and weaknesses) of Mexico’s “New Cultural History.” Please summarize the most important points of that debate and then use three to five works from your list to characterize the literature that followed. In what ways do you think that the “lucha libre” forum shaped subsequent scholarship?

Part II. Respond to two of the following questions:
2) How has the concept of resistance changed over the last three-and-a-half decades in the literature on colonial Latin America? Do scholars today find resistance to be a useful category of analysis?

3) How do the Mexican Revolution and the regime that emerged from it reflect broader trends and tensions in Latin American history? Discuss in connection to at least two other countries.

4) Scholars of Latin America have often studied nation building and related projects and ideologies (Liberalism, republicanism, etc.) from different perspectives, with one school casting attention on elite actors and another preferring to write history more from “the bottom up.” Through a comparison of Brazil and at least one other country from Spanish America, please provide your own answer to the question “who builds nations?” and explain how that answer compares to the foregoing scholarly consensus.

5) In the last thirty years, labor historians have paid increasing attention to gender. How has this development changed our understanding of workers and their histories? Do we now understand labor history in a different light, or have scholars simply broadened our purview by adding women to formerly male-centric narratives?