U.S. Since 1815

Answer a total of three questions in pointed and well-supported essays. Choose at least one question from each part.

Part A

1. What is radical history?

2. Should the history of slavery proceed centrally from the relation of master to slave or that of slave to slave? How was the history been conceptualized in these regards over time? Are there other possibilities?

3. What fundamental challenges to reigning approaches in working class history have been presented by work on race, gender, and sexuality since the time when the new labor history really was new?

Part B

1. How would you conceptualize the history of the United States as an empire, and how does such a conceptualization alter our understanding of U.S. history?

2. Theoretically and historically, what has been the relationship between capitalism and racism, from slavery onward?

3. Even if they don't necessarily achieve a monopoly of the legitimate use of violence, per Max Weber's famous definition, all states are coercive. How has violence structured U.S. history?