Answer ONE question from each of the following sections for a total of THREE answers. Please discuss historiographic debates and issues, when appropriate, for the questions. Good luck!

I. Expulsion and New Communities

1. What caused the expulsion of most Jewish communities from Central and Western Europe by 1550? Were there general (universally relevant) reasons for the expulsions? Did local factors play decisive roles? Please consider the Spanish expulsion and at least one other expulsion from the period.

2. Describe the status of Judaism in the United Provinces in the seventeenth century. Did developments in parts of the Netherlands inform improvements in Christian-Jewish relations in many parts of Europe?

II. Shaping Early Modern Jewish Culture and Society

1. Did Humanism and the Reformation movements have a significant impact on Christian-Jewish relations in the early modern period?

2. In his *Early Modern Jewry: A New Cultural History* (2010), David Ruderman argues that "Mobility, communal cohesion, a knowledge explosion, rabbinical authority in crisis, and a muddling of religious identities clearly transfigure the culture and society of Jews living across Europe in early modern times." Please discuss each of these five developments briefly, giving examples of scholarship on each.

III. Persecution and Identity

1. How have scholars addressed the concept of "identity" among early modern Christians and Jews, 1450-1675?

2. How did Christians and Jews respond to severe religious oppression in the period?