

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

2<sup>nd</sup> ARTS EXAMINATIONS, 2002-2003

SEMESTER II

HISTORY

Course HI 259 – THE RISE OF MODERN AMERICA, 1865-1996

P. BEW  
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Time Allowed: Two Hours  
Answer One Question from each section  
Answer Three Questions in total

SECTION ONE (Answer One Question)

1. To what extent is it possible to say that Reconstruction was an 'unfinished revolution' ?
2. Which factors led to war between the Sioux and the United States between 1866 and 1876 ?
3. To what extent were the leaders of the Progressive Movement committed to social reform and the defense of workers' rights ? [Refer specifically to Theodore Roosevelt's policy toward Big Business and the Trade Unions]
4. Which factors led to the United States' increased involvement in world affairs in the period between 1898 and 1917 ?

PLEASE TURN OVER

**2BA, HI259 THE RISE OF MODERN AMERICA, SEMESTER II 2002-2003**

**SECTION TWO (Answer One Question)**

5. Why did the period after World War I see a resurgence of reactionary activity ? [Refer specifically to the 'Red Scare' and to the rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan].
6. Critically discuss and analyze the achievements and limitations of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal legislation.
7. Which factors led the United States to declare war on Japan and Germany in 1941 ? [Refer specifically to Roosevelt's policy of American aid to Britain]
8. How did Truman's and Eisenhower's foreign policies lead to a hardening of the American and Russian positions in the Cold War ?

**SECTION THREE (Answer One Question)**

9. Critically discuss and analyze the path followed by the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) from the initial closeness to Martin Luther king to the making of the 'Black Power' movement.
10. Critically discuss and analyze Lyndon Johnson's program of building a 'great society' in America [Refer specifically to civil rights' legislation and the 'war on poverty'].
11. Why did the United States become progressively involved in Vietnam from 1961 to 1972 ?
12. Critically discuss and analyze the parable of rise and fall of Nixon's 'imperial presidency'. [Refer specifically to Nixon's and Kissinger's 'back channel' policy and the 'Watergate scandal']