

## THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

2nd ARTS EXAMINATIONS 1998-1999

SUMMER

HISTORY

Course HI 256 - BIRTH OF AMERICA, 1765-1860

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Time Allowed: Two HoursAnswer One question from each sectionAnswer Three questions in total

## SECTION ONE (Answer One Question)

1. To what extent was the Stamp Act Crisis a turning point in the emergence of colonial American opposition to British rule?
2. Why did Americans declare their independence in 1776 but not a decade earlier?
3. Did the Constitution resolve the problems of the 1780s?
4. What did the Founding Fathers seek to achieve in the "Separation of Powers" clause to the Constitution?

## SECTION TWO (Answer One Question)

5. Why did the first political parties emerge in the 1790s?
6. "The Revolution of 1800": Is this a fair description of Jefferson's electoral victory and his Presidency, 1801-1809?

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7. Does the term "agrarian republicanism" accurately describe the political philosophy and practice of Presidents Jefferson and Madison?
8. Why was the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave* so influential amongst American abolitionists?

### SECTION THREE (Answer One Question)

9. **Either:**

Was the age of Jackson truly the "Age of the Common Man"?

**Or:**

To what extent was Andrew Jackson ideologically shaped by his Jeffersonian predecessors?

10. "Antebellum reformers sought nothing more than to save the soul of republicanism." Discuss the validity of this quotation.
11. Why did war break out in 1861 but not in 1850? Discuss the political crises and collapse of the Union in these years.
12. To what extent was the Civil War inevitable?