

# FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS

*The following two questions will appear on the final exam, to be administered in Class #26. You will be asked to respond to ONE of them. This will be a "closed book" exam, but you may bring in a single page of notes, on one side of an 8.5 x 11 inch sheet of paper.*

## Topics

1. Are Skidmore and Smith right -- in the history of Latin America since 1808, do economic factors determine social groupings, which in turn shape political institutions and ideologies? Respond to this question by considering the history of three of the following countries over the last two centuries: Cuba, Argentina, Mexico, Brazil, Chile.

2. In 1808, Napoleon's Imperial army invaded the Iberian peninsula; one result of this event, evident by 1830, was the end of the Portuguese and Spanish empires in the Americas. Although Portugal and Spain are no longer sovereign in their former colonies, is it fair to say that the peoples of Latin America have achieved independence in the past two centuries? Consider this question from political, economic, and/or cultural/intellectual perspectives.