

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER MAY, 2017

TITLE OF PAPER : HISTORY OF THE USA SINCE 1920

COURSE CODE : H423/IDE H423

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) Hours

INSTRUCTIONS :

- 1. Answer any two (2) Questions**
- 2. All questions carry equal marks**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED
BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

Question 1

“The roaring twenties was an era when our country prospered tremendously. This upward spiral which led to a business boom, continued until 1929,” (Paul Alexander Gusmorino, 1998).

Respond to the above statement using the major factors that were responsible for the remarkable economic growth experienced by the USA during the 1920s. **[25 marks]**

Question 2

Why did the USA suddenly find itself in a serious economic crisis in the 1930s after a decade of seemingly unprecedented economic prosperity? **[25 marks]**

Question 3

Discuss the legacy and impact of the New Deal on American society between 1933 and 1940.

[25 marks]

Question 4

Discuss the measures taken by the USA between 1935 and 1939 in its effort to avoid entanglement in the affairs of Europe during the build-up to the outbreak of World War II.

[25marks]

Question 5

Either

- (a) Discuss the major questions that dominated political debates about America's decision to use atomic warfare on Japan. **[25 marks]**

OR

- (b) Using specific examples, explain who between the USA and the Soviet Union was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War that characterised American-Soviet relations between 1945 and 1990. **[25 marks]**