MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Select a question from each of the two sections below. Write a well organized and supported essay in response to each question. Please use the bluebooks provided by the instructor.

Part I.

A. "Reconstruction failed to integrate blacks into the mainstream of Southern life and further failed to make the South a full and equal partner in the national economy." Assess the accuracy of this picture of the Reconstruction period, being certain to include in your discussion the course of Southern economic development and race relations.

B. What ideas and interests -- moral, economic, and political -- were used to justify and explain American foreign policy in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries? Describe the major events of U.S. foreign affairs that illustrate the application of these ideas.

Part II.

A. Describe the rise of large business corporations during the Gilded Age after the Civil War. In what ways were these corporations different from earlier American business organizations and how did these corporations affect the economic and social structure of the United States?

B. Compare Populism and Progressivism as reform movements aimed at remedying what their constituents viewed as the economic and social injustices resulting from America's rapid industrialization. What were the aims and accomplishments, similarities and differences between these movements and what groups made up their constituents?