Comprehensive Examination in Globalization and Development
Day One: General Examination
Fall 2007

Answer the following question (required):

1) **Required** How have various authors defined the concept of globalization? What sorts of evidence have been used to show that globalization is happening and that it constitutes something new? What are the primary debates regarding the economic, political and cultural dimensions of globalization? Make sure to organize your answer around competing schools of thought and elaborate the positions taken by authors regarding the different points of contention.

Answer TWO of the following questions:

2) Evaluate the concept of “Development from Below”. Discuss the variety of theoretical literatures that underpin this concept. Then, with examples drawn from empirical research, show how this kind of perspective contributes to policy debates over the development strategies of states and international agencies.

3) Over the past twenty years many developing countries throughout the world have implemented structural adjustment policies intended to liberalize their national economies. What have these policies consisted of? What do we know about the social consequences of structural adjustment policies? Be as specific as possible and make sure to organize your answer around a set of outcomes or themes.

4) What are the limits on rationality in economic behavior? Answer the question with reference to both nineteenth century and twentieth century sociological theories of rational behavior and give examples in terms of (a) peasant society and (b) the significance of networks and information for economic behavior.

5) What kinds of factors have been conducive to women’s employment in developing countries over the past several decades? What are the main obstacles to women’s employment? What can we expect regarding the future of women’s labor force participation?