Take-Home Exam/Essay for Latin America Political Economy and Economics workshop

November 14, 2011

Venezuela: Building Economic and Social Justice. Peter Bohmer

**Due, Friday, December 2nd, 9:30 A.M**

Please type your answers, double-spaced. Do all three parts, 1, 2 and 3.

1) Please explain the meaning and significance of **five** of the following eight concepts and connect them briefly to the development of Latin American economies or Robinson’s framework in *Latin America and Global Capitalism*. Write a paragraph on each.

A) Import Substitution Industrialization

B) Inflation

C). Export Processing Zones (EPZ) and Maquiladoras

D). Non-traditional agricultural exports

E) Keynesianism

F) Bolivarian Alternative for the Americas (ALBA)

G) Informal Labor Market

H) Neoliberal Policies

2) Please answer **one** of the following three questions/statements (one to two pages)

A. What is the relation between free trade agreements in Latin America, e.g., CAFTA, NAFTA and neoliberalism more generally, and the increased emigration of people within Latin America and from Latin America to the United States. Adherents of NAFTA claimed it would decrease emigration by increasing employment there while Robinson claims it has caused sharply increasing emigration. Assess these claims and draw your own conclusion.

or

B. Explain the changing composition of the working class in Latin America over the last 30 years, their changing conditions and new forms of resistance.

or

C. Examine the relation between the growth of transnational capitalism and the changing roles and conditions of women in Latin America.

3) Explain, examine, and critique the main thesis, framework of Robinson’s, *Latin America and Global Capitalism*. In your three page essay, make sure to compare and contrast Robinson’s theory of global capitalism (transnational capitalism) as a new epoch (period) of world capitalism that is a major change from the prior form of world capitalism and to other frameworks. In your answer be sure to explain and analyze his concepts of a transnational capitalist class, a transnational working class and the role of the state. Examine Robinson’s frameworks in regards to a few specific changes in the political economy of the region and/or specific countries, e.g. remittances, tourism, agriculture, finance, migration, gender, economic inequality, industry.