

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications:-

B.A.

German B106: Introduction to German History

COURSE CODE : **GERMB106**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **To be collected on 25 April 2002 from 12 noon onwards and returned on 30 April 2002 by 5pm.**

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TURN OVER

GERMB106 INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN HISTORY

Take-home paper

To be collected on Thursday 25 April 2002 from 12 noon onwards.
To be returned on Tuesday 30 April 2002 by 5.00 pm.

ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS.

Essays should be approximately 1,000 words in length. Importance is attached to the clarity of your argument. All questions carry equal marks.

DO NOT PLAGIARIZE: all quotations should be acknowledged and full references to source and page number given. A bibliography including all sources consulted should be listed at the end of each essay.

Please type if possible.

1. 'To characterise medieval Germany in terms of failure to develop strong central authority is to miss the dynamism, vitality and flexibility of its society and politics.' Discuss.
2. 'The political implications of the Reformation were of greater significance than the religious changes inaugurated by Luther's doctrines.' Discuss.
3. 'The long-term impact on Germany of the Thirty Years War has been overstated.' Discuss.
4. 'The distinctive character of the German Enlightenment can only be fully understood in the context of eighteenth-century absolutism.' Discuss.
5. Give a critical assessment of the causes of the revolutionary upheavals of 1848-9.
6. To what extent was unification in 1871 the result of German nationalism?

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7. 'The German Empire during the Wilhelmine era became little more than an authoritarian regime.' Discuss with reference to the years between 1890 and 1914.
8. 'Weimar democracy was not doomed from the start; nor even was it felled by the Wall Street Crash. Rather, in its closing days a handful of individuals made a grotesque miscalculation in handing over power to Hitler.' Discuss.
9. How would you characterise Hitler's role in the Third Reich? Answer with respect to ONE of the following areas: social change; racial policies; popular support and opposition; foreign policy and war.
10. 'The stability of the Bonn Republic owes more to the economic miracle than to the Basic Law.' Discuss.
11. In the light of forty years of relative political and economic stability, how would you explain the sudden collapse of the GDR in 1989?

END OF PAPER