

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:–

*B.A.*

**German B106: An Introduction to German History Take-home**

**COURSE CODE : GERMB106**

**UNIT VALUE : 0.50**

**COLLECT : 27 APRIL 2006, from 12 noon onwards**

**RETURN : 2 MAY 2006, by 5pm**

**GERMB106**  
**INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN HISTORY**

**TAKE-HOME PAPER**

To be collected on Thursday 27 April 2006 from 12 noon onwards.  
To be returned on Tuesday 2 May 2006 by 5:00 pm.

ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS. Please type or use a word processor.

Essays should be approximately 1000 words in length. Do not draw substantially on the same material for more than one answer. All questions carry equal marks. Importance is attached to the clarity of your argument.

DO NOT PLAGIARISE. All quotations must be acknowledged and full references to source and page number given. Do not rely extensively on a single source for your essay. A bibliography listing *all* sources consulted, including not only books and articles but also internet sites if used, should be attached to the end of each essay.

1. 'Ironically, the principal outcome of Luther's notion of the direct relationship between man and God was not to destroy the power of the institutional church, but rather to make religious faith a matter for the state rather than the individual – and this was the most important consequence of the Reformation for German history.'  
Discuss.

2. 'Whatever its ostensible causes, the Thirty Years War was in fact less about religion than about the issue of central versus local power.' Discuss.

3. 'Contrary to widespread preconceptions, the German Enlightenment was not merely revolutionary in principle, but also in practice; and it was so precisely because the rulers of the German absolutist states were able to translate ideas into policies.'  
Discuss.

4. What were the principal causes and consequences of the revolutionary upheavals of 1848?

5. 'Bismarck devised a constitution to suit himself; and, in a context of rapid social and economic change, with his departure the political structure of Imperial Germany proved unworkable.' Discuss.

6. 'The First World War was a watershed in German history, not merely in the realm of politics but also with respect to culture and society.' To what extent do you agree with this statement?

7. 'Hitler's rise to power and appointment as Chancellor in January 1933 cannot be explained only in terms of the ideology and organisation of the NSDAP.' Discuss.

8. How far, if at all, should one blame 'ordinary Germans' for the ways in which the Third Reich developed?

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9. To what extent is it possible to develop an interpretation of the GDR which explains both its stability over forty years and its sudden collapse in 1989?

10. How would you characterise and explain political and social transformations in the Federal Republic of Germany in the period 1949-2005?

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