UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications:-

B.A.

German B209: Aspects of Twentieth Century German History

COURSE CODE

: **GERMB209**

UNIT VALUE

: 0.50

DATE

: 13-MAY-02

TIME

: 10.00

TIME ALLOWED

: 3 hours

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TURN OVER

GERMB209 ASPECTS OF GERMAN HISTORY SINCE 1918

Time allowed: THREE hours.

Answer THREE questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

Do not draw substantially on the same material for more than one answer.

- 1. To what extent were social unrest and revolution after 1918 caused by Germany's defeat in the First World War?
- 2. Give a critical assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of German political parties between 1918 and 1933.
- 3. 'Social conflict during the Weimar era was more of a myth than a reality.' Discuss.
- 4. 'It is more difficult to account for the resilience of the Weimar Republic than to explain its eventual collapse.' Discuss.
- 5. Who voted for the NSDAP between 1920 and 1933, and why?
- 6. How helpful is the term 'polycratic state' in seeking to understand the structure and development of the Third Reich?
- 7. 'It was not so much widespread popular support, nor even repression of active opposition, that sustained Hitler's power; rather, we should focus on the ambivalent complicity of key elites combined with the apathy of the masses.' Discuss.
- 8. 'For all the controversies of historians, the Holocaust remains ultimately inexplicable.' Discuss.
- 9. 'The Second World War had a far greater impact on German society than any alleged effects of Hitler's "social revolution".' Discuss.
- 10. 'To compare the ways in which East and West Germany sought to "overcome the past" is to realise both the magnitude of the task and the meaninglessness of the phrase.' Discuss.