

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

German C311: Gottfried Von Strassburg And The Medieval Tristan Legend

COURSE CODE : **GERMC311**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **10-MAY-04**

TIME : **14.30**

TIME ALLOWED : **2 Hours**

C311
Gottfried von Strassburg and the Medieval Tristan Legend

Time allowed: TWO hours.

Answer TWO questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

Do not use the same material as the basis for more than one answer.

Do not answer on substantially the same topic as that of your assessed essay for this course.

In answering any question, you are free to make comparisons with the versions of the Tristan story written by Thomas, Eilhart and Beroul.

1. Assess the significance of the prologue for an understanding of Gottfried's *Tristan* as a whole.
2. 'The story of Riwalin and Blanscheflur in Gottfried's *Tristan* presents love not as an ennobling force, but as a destructive obsession.' Discuss.
3. 'The love potion in Gottfried's *Tristan* brings about the death of the lovers; but it is also their salvation.' Discuss.
4. 'Gottfried's version of the wedding night scene is written in a way that is designed to generate sympathy for Isolt.' Discuss.
5. 'When Marke spies on Tristan and Isolt in the cave of lovers, he remains blind to the true significance of what he sees.' Discuss.
6. 'Auch Tristan und Isolt erkennen in Gottfrieds Roman den Hof König Markes als gültige Ordnung an, und sie halten in einer für uns irritierenden Weise an ihren gesellschaftlichen Rollen fest.' Discuss.
7. 'In Gottfried's text, Tristan only considers marrying because his future wife would have the same name as his lover.' Discuss.
8. 'Although their love is in conflict with the religious and social norms of feudal society, it causes Tristan and Isolt neither guilt nor shame.' Discuss.
9. 'Suffering for the sake of love is presented by Gottfried as an *elevating* part of the Tristan story.' Discuss.

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