

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

German C310: Parzival

COURSE CODE : **GERMC310**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **30-APR-04**

TIME : **14.30**

TIME ALLOWED : **2 Hours**

GERMC310

WOLFRAM VON ESCHENBACH: *PARZIVAL*

Time allowed: **TWO** hours.

Answer **TWO** questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

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

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

1. Write a commentary on the following passage:

Swer mich dervon ê frâgte
unt drumbe mit mir bâgte,
ob ichs im niht sagte,
umprîs der dran bejagte.
5 mich batez helen Kyôt,
wand im diu âventiure gebôt
daz es immer man gedaechte,
ê ez d'âventiure braechte
mit Worten an der maere gruoz
10 daz man dervon doch sprechen muoz.
Kyôt der meister wol bekant
ze Dôlet verworfen ligen vant
in heidenischer schrifte
dirre âventiure gestifte.
15 der karakter â b c
muoser hân gelernet ê,
ân den list von nigrômanzî.
ez half daz im der touf was bî:
anders waer diz maer noch un vernumn.
20 kein heidensch list möht uns gefrumn
ze künden umbes grâles art,
wie man sîner tougen innen wart.
ein heiden Flegetânîs
bejagte an künste hôhen prîs.
25 der selbe fisîon
was geborn von Salmôn,
ûz israhêlscher sippe erzilt
von alter her, unz unser schilt
der touf wart fürz hellefiur.
der schreip von grâles âventiur.

2. 'In *Parzival* the narrator's misogyny is simply a ruse.' Discuss.

3. What is the significance of beasts AND/ OR bestiality in Wolfram's *Parzival*?

4. 'Gahmuret is loyal to no one but himself.' Discuss.
5. Analyse the theme of folly in the story of the young Parzival (Books III-IV).
6. 'That Parzival eventually becomes Grail King is nothing short of a miracle.' Discuss.
7. To what extent may Gawan's behaviour in Book VIII be regarded as an aberration?
8. 'Gawan's importance is drastically reduced by the end of *Parzival*.' Discuss.
9. 'Wolfram's *Parzival* portrays chivalry at its most grotesque.' Discuss.
10. Examine the role played by visual perception in the courtly world of *Parzival*.