

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:-

*B.A.*

**German B210: Politics, Culture and Society in Germany Since 1945 Take-home**

**COURSE CODE : GERMB210**

**UNIT VALUE : 0.50**

**COLLECT : 3 MAY 2006, from 12 noon onwards**

**RETURN : 8 MAY 2006, by 5pm**

**GERMB210**  
**POLITICS, CULTURE AND SOCIETY IN GERMANY SINCE 1945**

**TAKE-HOME PAPER**

To be collected on Thursday 3 May 2006 from 12 noon onwards.

To be returned on Tuesday 8 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, must be attached at the end of each essay.

1. To what extent, and why, had East and West Germany diverged by 1955?
2. 'Material well-being leads to political stability.' To what extent, if at all, is this assertion helpful in understanding the political history of EITHER the Federal Republic of Germany OR the German Democratic Republic?
3. 'The East German dictatorship was sustained by domestic repression backed by Soviet force. With its watchtowers and secret police, it was the quintessential totalitarian state in Prussian colours.' Discuss.
4. '1968 was about more than merely generational conflict in West Germany.' Discuss.
5. To what extent did the shift from Ulbricht to Honecker in 1971 inaugurate significant changes in GDR politics, economy, society and culture?
6. 'In both West and East Germany, the Nazi past was constantly present yet never adequately addressed.' Discuss.
7. 'Curiously, both West and East German culture participated – albeit to different degrees and with different inflections – in wider currents of westernisation.' Discuss.
8. 'The most visible difference between East and West German society in 1989 might have been in the roles of women; but far deeper underlying changes in social structures, attitudes and patterns of behaviour had taken place in the two German states over forty years of division.' Discuss.

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9. How important for the collapse of the GDR in 1989 was the emergence of organised political activism in the course of the 1980s?

10. To what extent, if at all, is it possible to characterise a new 'national identity' in the enlarged Federal Republic of Germany since 1990?

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