

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

*For The Following Qualification:-*

*B.A.*

**German C337: Politics in the GDR**

**COURSE CODE : GERMC337**

**UNIT VALUE : 0.50**

**DATE : 20-MAY-03**

**TIME : 10.00**

**TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours**

## GERMC337

### POLITICS IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Time allowed: THREE hours.

Answer THREE questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

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

1. How valid is the view that the GDR was 'doomed from the start'?
2. In what respects, if at all, can Ulbricht be seen as a reformer in the 1960s?
3. What were the long-term consequences of Honecker's insistence on the 'unity of social and economic policy'?
4. Was the Stasi really just the 'sword and shield' of the SED?
5. How do you account for mass participation in the mass organisations of the GDR?
6. 'The relations between Protestant Church and SED state were on balance a stabilising factor in GDR politics.' Discuss.
7. Why were dissent and opposition so easily suppressed in the period 1953-1987?
8. 'The revolution of 1989 can only be explained in terms of altered international circumstances.' Discuss.
9. 'The SED's power was based entirely on the threat or use of Soviet force.' Discuss.
10. 'The GDR was a totalitarian state; we have to use the term "power" rather than "authority" when analysing the GDR.' Discuss.

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