

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications :-

B.A.

Scand. Studs. SC4730: Sources for Viking Age II

COURSE CODE : **SCAN4730**

UNIT VALUE : **0.50**

DATE : **15-MAY-02**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 hours**

02-C1177-3-30

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TURN OVER

Answer THREE questions. All questions carry equal marks. A candidate may not in any answer cover the same ground as in an assessed essay. Avoid any duplication of material within this paper.

1. Review the main sources of information about Viking-Age Scandinavia and Scandinavians written in Arabic.
2. 'In no other source can we find such useful information about life in Viking-Age Norway.' How far can you agree with this view of Ohthere's 'narrative' in King Alfred's Orosius?
3. Consider the position of women in Viking-Age Scandinavia.
4. Assess the value to the student of the Viking Age of the ninth chapter of Constantine Porphyrogenitus's *De administrando imperio*.
5. What is the value of Rimbert's *Vita Anskarii* as a source for the history of ninth-century Sweden?
6. EITHER: (a) Describe the preservation of *The Anglo-Saxon chronicle*.
OR: (b) Give an account based on *The Anglo-Saxon chronicle* of Viking activity in England over the period 789-1042.
7. What relevance does *The Russian primary chronicle* have to the Normanist controversy?
8. EITHER: (a) Give a critical account of the fourth book of Adam of Bremen's *Gesta* as a source for Viking Age conditions.
OR: (b) Discuss Adam of Bremen's description of the temple and heathen rites at Uppsala.
9. What are our sources for the god Baldr and what information do they give us?
10. Write notes on THREE of the following: the Varangian guard; Unni, archbishop of Hamburg-Bremen; Gotlandic picture stones; Helgö (Uppland); the Battle of Clontarf; Sven Haraldsson Forkbeard; Jumne; the Danelaw; the second Rus attack on Constantinople; Norse ship-names; Staraja Ladoga; the god Ullr.