

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

B.A.

Spanish S111C: Heroes and Villains: An Introduction to Spanish–American Film II

COURSE CODE : SPAN111C

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 07–MAY–04

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 2 Hours

SPANISH S111C Heroes and Villains: An Introduction to Spanish American Film II

Candidates should answer **TWO** questions

Essays may be written in either Spanish or English, but no extra credit will be given for answers in Spanish.

Candidates should not base more than ONE answer on a particular work.

Candidates should not base their answers on any text or texts used extensively in their course-work essay.

1. EITHER (a) 'Though visually stunning in places, *¡Qué viva México!*' is never more than a rough-cut which, ultimately, disappoints the viewer.' Discuss.

OR (b) '*¡Qué viva México!* projects a compelling vision of Mexico in which the old and the new, the ancient and the revolutionary are woven together convincingly.' Discuss.

2. EITHER (a) 'In *Los olvidados* there are no stars: neither in the firmament above Mexico City nor in the acting.' Discuss.

OR (b) '*Los olvidados* is a sociological document: nothing more, nothing less.' Discuss.

3. EITHER (a) 'Despite its apparently simple plot, *El Norte* has recourse to a number of symbols which enhance its message.' Discuss.

OR (b) '*El Norte* is not a film about the American dream; it is a film about the Mexican dream.' Discuss.

4. EITHER (a) '*Yo, la peor de todas* is as much about the present as the past, as much about women in the twentieth century as about a seventeenth-century nun.' Discuss.

OR (b) 'By queering sor Juana, Bemberg pushes the limits of artistic license.' Discuss the validity of this statement about *Yo, la peor de todas*.

5. EITHER (a) 'El tema de la película no es tanto el homosexualismo como la intolerancia.' Discuss the validity of this view of *Fresa y chocolate*.

OR (b) Analyse the interplay between chocolate and strawberry in *Fresa y chocolate*.

6. 'The struggle depicted is not so much between heroes and villains understood as universal categories (good versus evil), as between distinct social groups vying for power and influence at a specific point in historical time.' Discuss the validity of this observation with reference to ANY ONE work or film studied in this course.

END OF PAPER