

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:-

B.Sc. B.Sc. (Intercal)

Hist. of Medic. C21: Madness and Society

COURSE CODE : HMEDC021

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 19-MAY-03

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

THREE HOURS

Please answer ANY THREE questions.

1. Among the various forces at work that contributed historically to the official end of European witchcraft, diabolism and possession, what part if any was played by medicine?
2. By looking at ANY or ALL of the following – Mesmerism, the use of hypnosis, psychoanalysis and related therapies – provide a brief history of ‘fringe’ or unorthodox psychological medicine, with some explanation as to why they might have been marginalized by mainstream psychiatry.
3. ‘The history of the asylum in Britain from the late eighteenth century onwards was also the history of class and class discrimination’. Debate this claim.
4. Why historically emphasise the nineteenth century ‘female’ malady as against the ‘male’ malady?
5. Using evidence from specific trials, illustrate how the use of the criminal insanity plea might be seen as the ‘medicalisation of evil acts’.
6. Provide your own personal case history on behalf of any historical psychiatric patient you have encountered whilst taking this course.
7. What are the crucial developments in the history of psychiatry that allow Edward Shorter to write a progressive history of an increasingly ‘scientific’ medical practice?
8. What kind of disease is schizophrenia and why were its causes and its possible cures so unclear from the early days of the diagnosis?
9. Why was the history of war neuroses from around 1915 so varied and so controversial?
10. ‘Heroic psychiatric remedies in the early twentieth century, while often barbaric to modern eyes, helped at least two of their supporters gain a Nobel Prize’. Give an account of this apparent paradox.

CONTINUED

11. The course you have taken is entitled 'madness and society'. Drawing on any part of it, give examples where these two elements – the medical and the social – seem most combined and inseparable.
12. 'The contradictions and the weaknesses of the anti-psychiatry movement are no better summarized than by the following: that two of its most celebrated authors (Laing and Szasz) were both psychiatrists'. Do you agree and if so why?

END OF PAPER