

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualifications:–

B.A. B.Sc. B.Sc. (Intercal)

Hist. of Medic. C21: Madness and Society

COURSE CODE : HMEDC021

UNIT VALUE : 0.50

DATE : 02–MAY–06

TIME : 14.30

TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours

THREE HOURS

Please answer ANY THREE questions

1. How were mental abnormalities explained within Hippocratic medical writings and how influential were those explanations in later centuries?
2. Give an account of both the perceived strengths and the perceived weaknesses of the Devil as described in the trials and the exorcisms of the European witch-hunts c 1480 -1700.
3. How and when did suicide become a medical rather than a spiritual concern in the European world from the Classical age onwards?
4. Drawing on particular examples, provide a short account of the criminal insanity plea as used in English trials from the mid-eighteenth to the mid-nineteenth century.
5. 'The nineteenth century female malady was in fact a form of special pleading by (mostly female) writers, diarists and social commentators; it was absent in asylum case histories let alone the daily lives of ordinary female citizens of whatever social class. Argue with this assertion.
6. Drawing from any part of the course and/or your reading for the course, select a patient or group of patients whom you deem clearly wronged and misused by psychiatric medical intervention, explaining in as much detail as you can the reasons for your choice.
7. Give a historical summary of **ONE** of the following :
 - a) the hysteria diagnosis
 - b) Neurasthenia
 - c) Shellshock / war neurosis
8. What were the medical and social contexts for the financing and the development of 'heroic remedies', including lobotomy, leucotomy, insulin coma and ECT in the period 1890 to about 1950?
9. Outline the history of the dementia praecox/ schizophrenia diagnosis, from Kraepelin and Bleuler to the present day. What are the chief lessons that history teaches the historian?

CONTINUED

10. The subtitle to Edward Shorter's book is ' From the era of the asylum to the age of Prozac'. Provide a short account of the main points in his story and why he might have deemed that subtitle appropriate.
11. What were the essential differences between the ideas and practices of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung?
12. 'The writings of both Thomas Szasz and R.D. Laing were – and in Szasz's case still are – the work of two men, each with one big idea and a wrong idea at that'. Argue with this proposal.

END OF PAPER