

OLLSCOIL na hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY of IRELAND, GALWAY

SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATIONS, 2000-2001

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION

GEOGRAPHY

TB308/358 Regional Geography IV (North America)

ECTS: 2.5

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Time allowed: 1.5 hours

Use a separate answer book for this Paper

Answer two questions

1. Write a geographical essay on the relationship between climate and soils in the United States.
2. Describe the main geographical features and the underlying causes, associated with recent population movement to non-metropolitan areas in the United States, as documented by Frey and Liaw (1998) and Fuguitt *et al* (1997).
3. **Either**
 - (a) "During the second half of the 20th century, entrepreneurs transformed American agriculture from a cottage industry into a highly-specialised system of large-scale production" (Hart, 1998). Discuss this statement with reference to the resulting geographical patterns.

Or

 - (b) Evaluate the factors that contributed to the survival of family farming in the Southern High Plains during the 1980s, according to Roberts (1996).
4. Assess the evidence for Ford's (1996) statement about the American city, that "to some degree the more things change, the more they remain the same".
5. **Either**
 - (a) Discuss critically the role of small-scale entrepreneurship in rural America, illustrating your answer with reference to any one geographical example.

Or

 - (b) Describe the pattern of Japanese investment in R&D in the United States in the 1980s and early 1990s and review the main underlying explanatory factors, as identified by Florida and Kenney (1994).