

OLLSCOIL na hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

SEMESTER II EXAMINATIONS, 2000-2001

SECOND UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION IN ARTS

GEOGRAPHY

TI 217 Urban Geography

Weight: 5 ECTS

Professor R. A. Dodgshon

Dr. Mark McCarthy

Professor Ulf Strohmayer

Time allowed: 3 hours

Answer four questions

1. “The blurring of...[academic] boundaries has opened up discussions about cities to lots of new voices and ideas, and clearly there’s a lot of good to have come out of this, but at what price?” (Lees, 2000). Discuss this statement, with particular reference to the way in which urban geography has moved away from simplifying cities into ‘discrete types’ towards studying their ‘landscape complexity’.
2. Outline the main traits of the so-called ‘anti-urban philosophy’ that prevailed in Ireland until recent times, and demonstrate some of the recent changes that have taken place in attitudes to Irish towns and cities.
3. The building developments encouraged in Ireland’s towns and cities under the Urban Renewal Schemes (since 1986) have “addressed widespread dereliction and rejuvenated areas which were in decline or had fallen into disuse” (KPMG, *et al.*). Discuss.
4. Write an essay on the evolution of spatial planning in Britain during the twentieth century.
5. Describe the role played by local authorities in the day to day running of towns and cities in Ireland.
6. Write an essay on the evolution of Ireland’s urban planning system and describe how the processes of ‘land use planning’ and ‘development control’ operate.
7. Write an essay on Africa’s changing urban geography, and outline the various problems that its cities have faced since the late twentieth century.
8. Choosing a town of your choice, write an essay on the urban historical geography of Ireland during the early modern period.
9. The forecasted tripling of the world’s urban population over the next half century “poses daunting challenges of social and economic destitution and severe environmental degradation” (Hanson and Lake, 2000). Discuss.