

OLLSCOIL na hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

SEMESTER II EXAMINATIONS, 2000-2001

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION

GEOGRAPHY

TA365 – Quantitative Techniques

Weight: 2.5 ECTS

Professor R. A. Dodgshon
Dr. Mark McCarthy
Dr. John McDonagh
Professor Ulf Strohmayer

Time allowed: 1.5 hours

Use a separate answer book for each question

Answer two questions

1. Write an essay on the use of quantitative methods and computers (including GIS) within the discipline of geography since the “Quantitative Revolution” of the late 1950s.
2. Explain the following:
 - (a) What does Stephens’s four-fold classification of the scales of measurement in statistics entail?
 - (b) What are the three main forms of spatial data types in geography?
 - (c) Why is sampling conducted in geographical research and what problems arise from its use?
 - (d) What criteria are involved in selecting a sampling methodology?
 - (e) What are the main sampling procedures used for research in physical geography?
3. Understanding the physical properties of sediments gives us a unique insight into past and present landscapes. Outline the reasoning, factors and statistical methods that can be used to investigate the physical properties of sediments.
4. The type of geographical research pursued determines the method of research applied. Discuss.