

**National University of Ireland, Galway**  
*Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh*

**SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATIONS 2002**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY**

**AR323**

**PATTERNS IN IRISH PREHISTORY**

EXAMINERS: Professor J. P. Mallory  
 Professor John Waddell  
 Dr William O'Brien  
 Dr Stefan Bergh  
 Dr Carleton Jones

Time allowed: *three* hours

ANSWER **THREE** QUESTIONS

1. Discuss how the excavations at Mount Sandel and Ferriter's Cove have contributed to our understanding of the economies of Mesolithic Ireland.

2A. How did Ireland become 'Neolithic' and what does this mean?

**OR**

2B. Describe the houses and domestic economy of Neolithic Ireland.

3A. Consider the role of megalithic tombs in the transition from the Mesolithic to the Neolithic.

**OR**

3B. Treat of Fourknocks as a case-study of Neolithic burial practice and monument use.

4A. Consider the social significance of Irish passage Tombs.

**OR**

4B. Describe the landscape setting of passage tombs in a location of your choice.

5. Treat of the henge monument in Ireland.

6A. Discuss the significance of Beaker material in Ireland. Was there an Irish 'Beaker Folk'?

**OR**

6B. Consider the Beaker contribution to the early copper metallurgy in Ireland.

7. Outline the evidence for contacts between Ireland and Scotland **either** in the Neolithic **or** in the Early Bronze Age.

**OVER**

8. Describe any one Early Bronze Age cemetery and comment on the significance of this phenomenon.
9. Discuss the role of large hill-top enclosures in the settlement landscape of Late Bronze Age Ireland.
10. Outline the evidence for contact between Ireland and Continental Europe in the later Bronze Age.
11. Consider changing opinion on the introduction of iron and its cultural significance.
12. Treat of the La Tène phenomenon in Ireland. What does it mean?