

.OLLSCOIL NA hEIREANN, GAILLIMH  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND GALWAY  
THIRD ARTS AND VISITING STUDENTS  
**HI346: ORAL HISTORY AND PERSONAL TESTIMONY.**

J.Horne  
N.Canny  
C.Clear

Time: **TWO** hours  
Answer **TWO** questions.

1. What is the difference between oral tradition and oral history?
2. '...oral history presents some pitfalls and a set of theoretical problems to those who successfully engage in it. It also offers enormous and exciting possibilities'. (Ronald Grele.) Discuss, in the context of truth and accuracy in oral history.
3. 'One of the deepest lessons of oral history is the uniqueness, as well as the representativeness, of every life story.' (Paul Thompson.) Discuss.
4. 'Plenty of time and plenty of tape and few questions', is oral history pioneer George Ewart Evans' recipe for a successful interview. Do you agree with him?
5. Ask permission, then do what comes naturally, is the substance of Alessandro Portelli's advice about ethics in the oral history interview. Do you think it is sufficient?
6. Can written personal testimony (published and unpublished) be evaluated in the same way as oral history?