

OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

2nd ARTS EXAMINATIONS 2002-03

SUMMER 2003

HISTORY

Course HI 248 - MEDIEVAL EUROPE, c. 1250-1500

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Time allowed: **TWO** hours

Answer **THREE** questions, at least **ONE** from each group

**All answers should focus on the time period c.1250–1500
unless stated otherwise**

GROUP A

1. Why did Europeans travel to or through regions controlled by the Mongols and what difficulties did they encounter in accomplishing their desired goals (to c. 1400)?
2. **EITHER**
 - (a.) What are the most important broader implications of the dispute between king Philip IV (the Fair) of France and pope Boniface VIII for analysing relations between lay rulers and the papacy?

OR

 - (b.) Discuss the most significant responses to the Great Schism by members of various social groups (e.g., lay rulers, churchmen, 'ordinary' believers).
3. 'Though catastrophic in the short term, the Black Death's longer-term transformative effects could be deemed beneficial, at least for some Europeans'. Discuss with reference to both regional and 'class' differences for the period c. 1347–1500.
4. 'Traditional in inspiration but radical in practice'. To what extent is this an apt assessment of 'popular' uprisings in the fourteenth century?
5. **EITHER**
 - (a.) Compare/contrast the most important effects of the Hundred Years War in England to those in France.

OR

 - (b.) Discuss the most important contributions of the Hundred Years War to military organisation and the practice of warfare in western Europe as a whole.

GROUP B

6. **EITHER**
(a.) How could kings most effectively extend or consolidate royal power in their realms, c. 1250–1500? (Discuss specific cases from more than one kingdom.)
OR
(b.) 'The personal attributes of a king remained as important to the success of his reign in c. 1500 as they had been c. 1250'; discuss with reference to specific episodes from the reigns of at least two kings.
7. **EITHER**
(a.) 'Creature of the king'. To what extent does this formula encapsulate the history of representative assemblies in the kingdom of England **or** France **or** Aragon **or** León-Castile over the period c. 1250–500?
OR
(b.) What were the most important features distinguishing the English Parliament from representative assemblies in the kingdom of France **or** León-Castile **or** Aragon over the period c. 1250–1500?
8. **EITHER**
(a.) Analyse the contributions of lay people to the most important devotional, spiritual and ecclesiastical developments of the period c. 1250–1500.
OR
(b.) 'Christian belief did not decline in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; it merely became less formally ecclesiastical in practice'. Discuss with reference to developments in piety and devotion among lay people and members of new groups of 'religious' alike.
9. What were the most important consequences of the needs of both lay rulers and popes to raise cash revenues to implement their policies?
10. Why was crusading so popular among Europeans, both within and beyond 'Europe', c. 1245–1520?
11. **EITHER**
(a.) Discuss how individuals of various social groups could rise in socio-economic status and/or political power in the period c. 1250–1500.
OR
(b.) Discuss the factors limiting upward social mobility and access to political power in the period c. 1250–1500.