

Ollscoil Na hÉireann, Gaillimh
National University of Ireland, Galway

Third Year History
Second Semester Examination 2002-3

Social History of Early Modern Spain 1598-1700 (HI 307)

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Prof. Nicholas Canny
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Time Allowed: TWO HOURS
Answer THREE Questions

1. Did the aristocracy make the best use of the weakness of successive monarchs to advance their power and independence during the seventeenth century?
2. Henry Kamen has described the decline of Spain in the seventeenth century as a 'historical myth'. Would you agree?
3. Many contemporaries saw the expulsion of the Moriscos as 'the triumph of unity of race, of unity of religion, of language and of customs'. Would you agree?
4. What can the study of crime tell us about the tensions within Baroque society?
5. To what extent was social ascension in the seventeenth century blocked by the existence of the statutes for racial purity (*limpieza de sangre*)?
6. To what extent were religious confraternities (*cofradías*) an expression of popular religious belief?
7. Was the nature and structure of the Spanish family altered by the mid-century economic crisis?
8. Baroque culture has been described as a 'directed, massive, urban and conservative culture' (J. A. Maravall). How was this reflected in its art forms?
9. What were the principal causes of revolts and social conflicts in Spanish society?
10. Who benefited most from the spread of literacy in Early Modern Spain?