

Semester 2 Summer Examinations, 2003/2004
Front Page Template

Exam Code(s)	1OA1, 1EM1
Exam(s)	3rd Arts
Module Code(s)	SP421.i
Module(s)	Women in Irish Society
Paper No.	
Repeat Paper	Special Paper
External Examiner(s)	Professor Richard Jenkins
Internal Examiner(s)	Professor Chris Curtin
	Ms. Ann Lyons

Instructions: Answer THREE questions.

Duration	3hs
No. of Answer books	1

Requirements:

Handout	
MCQ	
Statistical Tables	
Graph Paper	
Log Graph Paper	
Other Material	

No. of Pages	
Department(s)	Political Science & Sociology

SP421.i: Women in Irish Society

Time Allowed: 3 hours.

Please answer 3 questions.

1. Provide an overview of the type of employment equality legislation passed in Ireland since the 1970s and critically evaluate (a) its successes and (b) its failures, in addressing inequality between women and men in the labour market.
2. According to Pat O'Connor, paid employment in Ireland is a gendered system where 'wages, benefits and other privileges are disproportionately obtained by those who best 'fit' the system – men particularly well-educated men'. Explain what is meant by O'Connor's statement, and, illustrating your answer with examples, give your view of the accuracy of O'Connor's analysis.
3. Outline the provisions regarding women's role in the family contained in Article 41 of the Irish constitution, and critically evaluate the extent to which these provisions reflect contemporary patterns of family life in Ireland.
4. Give an account of the changes that have occurred regarding reproductive rights in Ireland since the 1970s, illustrating your answer with examples relating to contraception and abortion.
5. Critically evaluate feminist analyses of violence against women and discuss the incidence of violence against women in Irish society.
6. Illustrating your answer with examples, critically evaluate the argument that heterosexuality is the hegemonic form of sexuality in contemporary Ireland.
7. Outline the key economic and ideological changes that have occurred in Ireland since the end of the 1950s and evaluate the impact of these changes on the lives of women in Irish society.