

**OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH**  
**AUTUMN EXAMINATIONS 1999**  
**THIRD UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION**  
**HI 328 The Northern Ireland Problem**

**Professor Marianne Elliott**  
**Dr Mary Harris**  
**Professor Nicholas Canny**

**Time: two hours**

**Answer three questions: at least one from section A**  
**Substantial duplication of material is to be avoided.**

**Section A**

1. What can we learn about Catholics, the Catholic Church, and nationalist politics from the northern bishops' statement of 1923?
2. What was new about the Sunningdale Agreement?

**Section B**

3. Assess the difficulties facing Ulster Unionists in the 1920s.
4. Can it be said that Catholics have to a certain extent been architects of their own misfortunes in Northern Ireland because of their reluctance to cooperate with the state?
5. Identify and explain the key developments in the escalation of violence in Northern Ireland between 1968 to 1972.
6. Account for the failure of the Left in Northern Ireland politics.
7. Discuss the view that the Ulster Unionist position has become increasingly precarious since 1972.
8. Is religion a red herring in the debate about causes of violence in Northern Ireland?
9. Discuss the view that British security policies in Northern Ireland have often been counterproductive.

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10. Discuss the role of a politician of your choice in Northern Ireland since 1968.
11. What was the long-term significance of the Anglo-Irish Agreement?
12. Can it be said that the Belfast Agreement of 1998 marks a new departure in the policy of southern Irish governments towards Northern Ireland?