

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

3rd Arts EXAMINATIONS AUTUMN 1999

HISTORY

**Course HI 339 – EUROPEANS ABROAD. DIPLOMACY
AND TRAVEL 1500-1800**

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**Time Allowed: Two Hours
Answer Three questions**

- 1 How valid is the construct of “Contact, Collision, Relationship” (Urs Bitterli) when examining European—non-European encounters, 1500-1800?
- 2 How were cultural brokers in early modern travel “Actors across Boundries”?
- 3 Hispaniola has been described as a “*microcosm of the entire history of America*” (Pierre Chaunu). Comment and discuss on this opinion.
- 4 “*Colonization, and the dual experience of administration and acculturation which colonization involved, brought the hitherto semi-mythical, and often mythologized ‘savage’ far closer to the European world than he had been during antiquity and the Middle Ages.*” (Anthony Pagden).
How important was travel literature for the shaping of European ideas of ‘otherness’ in the period 1500-1800?
- 5 Why were the fields of geography, botany and ethnology so important in cross-cultural contact in the Pacific?

Please turn over...

- 6 ***“Acculturation comprehends those phenomena which result when groups of individuals having different cultures come into continuous first-hand contact, with subsequent changes in the original cultural patterns of either or both groups.” (M.J. Herskovits)***
Discuss the emergence of creole or mixed-race societies in the period 1500-1800.
- 7 ***“Failure was implicit in William Penn’s ‘Holy Experiment’ in Pennsylvania, in so far as it necessitated founding a ‘Community of the Just’ in a territory which had been taken away from other people.”***
Discuss.
- 8 **Assess the importance of Bartholmé De Las Casas’s “A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies” as an historical text.**
- 9 ***It is said of the Portuguese that “in the Atlantic they were explorers, in the Indian Ocean they were conquerors, and in the Far East they were businessmen.”***
Why might one describe the Portuguese trading empire as unparalleled in early modern history?
- 10 **How influential was Jesuit thinking on missionary activities in Canada or the Far East in the period to 1800?**
- 11 **How might the encounter between Chinese and Europeans be seen as a clash of ethnocentric ideologies?**
- 12 **How did the ‘Grand Tour’ alter Irish and British society in the eighteenth century?**