



# UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

### JUNE EXAMINATIONS 2014

**COURSE NAME:** HISTORICAL STUDIES 3A

**TIME:** 3 HOURS

**COURSE CODE:** HIS3A11

**MARKS:** 300

**EXAMINERS:** 1. Internal: S Chetty; N Essop-Sheik; J McDonald; E Pleck  
2. External: L Kriel (University of Pretoria)

(THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 5 SECTIONS AND 5 PAGES)

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**Answer ONE question from each of the FOUR sections. Please note the time allocation for each section. Please submit your answers to Sections A & B in one answer book, and those to Sections C & D in another answer book. Clearly indicate on the top of each answer the question number you are answering.**

#### SECTION A

**Answer ONE of these questions in essay format. Your answer should be approximately 2-3 pages in length. You should not spend more than 30 minutes on this section.**

#### QUESTION 1

Mary Wollstonecraft was a prominent figure in the late 18th century whose book "A Vindication of the Rights of Women" continues to influence feminists today. Write a biography of this Enlightenment thinker with an emphasis on her beliefs in the position and capabilities of women. [50]

OR

#### QUESTION 2

The Enlightenment marked a momentous period in European and world history that has left an indelible impact on our world today. It was a product of the changing world of 17th century Europe. In your essay, discuss the events leading up to the Enlightenment with particular reference to the influence of the Scientific Revolution and the Protestant Reformation. [50]

OR

**QUESTION 3**

RRR Dhlomo argued in 1920 that African women in the cities of South Africa were destructive and unrespectable figures lacking in appropriate ideals of Christianity and femininity. On the other hand, scholars such as Mark Hunter and Belinda Bozzoli have argued that these women migrants worked hard to imagine their femininity in new ways in the cities. Describe some of the ways in which female migration to urban areas occurred and the circumstances under which these women began to remake notions of love, domesticity and respectability in towns together with other women as well as with the men whom they encountered. [50]

**OR****QUESTION 4**

Much of the material which you have read in this class argues that practices and performances of sex and gender are intimately related to issues of power, or to the making and remaking of social hierarchies of domination and subordination. In South African history, labour migration to urban areas disrupted existing gendered relationships between men and women in which each performed particular roles in relation to each other in domestic life. Dunbar Moodie argues that men who migrated to the gold mines of the Witwatersrand and lived in male-only compounds found ways of re-creating 'traditional' understandings of gendered roles and relationships in new forms during their time on the mines. Discuss the nature and content of the 'mine marriages' he describes, analysing the historical circumstances of their formation as well as the 'appropriate' performances of gender which they prescribed for the men who participated in these relationships. [50]

**[50 marks]****SECTION B**

**Answer ONE of these questions in essay format. Your answer should be approximately 4-6 pages in length. You should not spend more than 60 minutes on this section.**

**QUESTION 5**

Enlightenment philosophers believed that human society could achieve perfection through an understanding of the natural laws that underpinned society. They brought reason and rationality to bear on many aspects of social and political life. In your essay discuss critically the ways in which the Enlightenment made an impact on law, government, economics and philanthropy. [100]

**OR**

**QUESTION 6**

According to Thomas Paine: "We have it in our power to begin the world over again". His publication "The Rights of Man" was an influential text arguing that a government is not considered legitimate if it does not safeguard the interests of its people. What impact did this have in the United States and France in the late 18th century and why? [100]

**OR****QUESTION 7**

Gendered participation in South African political life was strongly shaped by the discourse and practice of race politics in twentieth century South Africa. The campaign for the vote for women in South Africa from the first decade of the 1900s might be argued to be a particularly good example of the way in which struggles for gender and race equality came to be set up in opposition to each other. Using the evidence and arguments provided by Cheryl Walker, discuss the manner in which 'white' women in South Africa of a particular language and class backgrounds campaigned for, and eventually achieved, the franchise after union. [100]

**OR****QUESTION 8**

Lynn Thomas argues that the 'Modern Girl' became a site for struggles over racial respectability in 1930s South Africa. Young women embodying the features of a 'Modern Girl' were caught between competing discourses of racial uplift and racial degeneration. Considering the evidence that Thomas cites in her article, discuss the content of these competing, gendered ideas of race, in particular how and why commentators interpreted particular features of the 'Modern Girl' in support of their arguments. Your discussion must include a consideration of the way that the 'Modern Girl' idea indexed the changing relationships between men and women in South Africa at this time, as well as issues of class amongst urban Black South Africans and the broader context of Black political participation in which the Modern Girl was debated. [100]

**[100 marks]**

**SECTION C**

**Answer ONE of these questions in essay format. Your answer should be approximately 2-3 pages in length. You should not spend more than 30 minutes on this section.**

**QUESTION 9**

Explain the causes and consequences of the ideology of separate spheres, which became so powerful in nineteenth century North America and Europe [50]

**OR**

**QUESTION 10**

Assess the ways and extent to which the civil rights movement, the feminist and gay liberation movement, the sexual revolution, and the counterculture of the 1960s contributed to major changes in US and West European families. [50]

**OR**

**QUESTION 11**

Discuss how colonial, slave and Khoisan ideas of gender and masculinity intersected and shaped resistance in master/slave and master/servant relationships during the late 18th and early 19th centuries? Refer to the Galant Rebellion in your answer. [50]

**OR**

**QUESTION 12**

Discuss why respectability is such an important concept in analyses of the Cape in the early nineteenth century, and how Khoisan associated with missions challenged growing racist sentiment in the Colony during the 1840s and 1850s. [50]

**[50 marks]**

**SECTION D**

**Answer ONE of these questions in essay format. Your answer should be approximately 4-6 pages in length. You should not spend more than 60 minutes on this section.**

**QUESTION 13**

How and why has family life, gender relations, and marriage changed in Western Europe and North America since the 1960s? [100]

**OR**

**QUESTION 14**

Has family life in Western Europe and North America become less patriarchal? [100]

**OR**

**QUESTION 15**

Stanley Trapido has argued that "Essential to the making of Cape liberalism were the activities of a handful of independent journalists, a small number of radical missionaries and an increasingly politically-conscious group of Khoisan-descended people who were in the process of evolving a "Hottentot" nationalism." In your essay, trace the influence each of the groups identified in this quote had upon the Cape Liberal Tradition during the 1820s and 1830s. [100]

**OR**

**QUESTION 16**

Discuss what Elizabeth Elbourne means when she asserts that the Kat River Rebellion "has been read as a redemptive moment of subaltern unity in the Cape, whether of class or of race." In your answer, be sure to explain what the Kat River Rebellion was and its place within a series of contemporary, unnerving events for Cape settler society, including the Eighth Frontier War and the Squatter's Agitation. [100]

[100 marks]

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