

HI2810

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Summer Examinations 2020

HI281

Being Human: Human Nature from the Renaissance to Freud

Time allowed: 7 days

Paper Published: 27 May 09:00am

Submission: By 11:00am on 3 June via Tabula

Answer TWO questions - Each question is limited to 1500 words.

Assessment Guidance:

- You **MUST** read the supporting information on the History website:
<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/students/covidexam/>
 - You **MUST** submit answers on Tabula by 11:00am on the deadline date (all deadlines can be found on the departmental exam timetable or on your Tabula assessment page).
 - You **MUST** ensure that you upload the correct answer paper to the correct module.
 - Your exam answer paper **MUST** include:
 - Student ID number.
 - The module code and the module title.
 - Clearly state which questions have been answered.
 - Answers should be a maximum of 1500 words.
 - Answers are not expected to include a bibliography or footnotes, however, if you have consulted any materials please list these at the end of your answers.
 - Answers should **NOT** include any significant amount of material already presented in **ANY** assessed work.
 - Where necessary, papers for modules affected by industrial action in the 2019-2020 academic year include additional questions to provide a full range of topics.
 - This take-home assessment is a one-year variance from the normal examination format due to COVID-19 and will apply only in the 2019-2020 academic year.
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1. 'Human nature' is not transhistorical, 'human nature' is the product of human self-reflection about the human condition. Discuss.

2. What was the most important thing about 'being human' in the sixteenth century?

3. 'The early modern belief in demonic possession was superstitious and irrational'. Do you agree with this statement?

4. How radical was Francis Bacon's 'New Philosophy'?

5. Explain and compare sixteenth-century notions of the New World 'cannibal' with eighteenth-century notions of the Pacific 'noble savage'.

6. The Enlightenment's central project – the 'Science of Man' – hoped to establish a better society in which justice and equality for all would be achieved. Why wasn't this aim realised in practice?

7. What ideas about human nature underpinned Adam Smith's thinking about commerce and economic activity?

8. How did concepts of the 'human mind' change between the seventeenth and nineteenth century?

9. 'Darwin reproduced Victorian culture and society within the natural world'. Discuss.

10. In what ways were Freud's theories about 'human nature' contextually specific?

11. 'Vesalius sought to reform rather than revolutionise sixteenth-century medicine.' Discuss.

12. How novel were Descartes ideas about humans and animals?

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