

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF ARTS

FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION IN ARTS, HONOURS DEGREE (ENGLISH),
SEMESTER 1 – 2022/2023

ENG 4180 - MEDIEVAL POETRY: GEOFFREY CHAUCER

TWO HOURS

Open Book Examination

Answer TWO questions, choosing one from Part A and one from Part B

All questions carry equal marks (30 marks per question)

PART A

Either

1. “[S]he who formerly pursued masculine activities now, in her colonized condition, imitates Western feminine conduct.” Critically explore this claim in relation to the characters of Hippolyta and Emelye in Chaucer’s *The Knight’s Tale*.

Or

2. “The truly decisive winner is the aristocratic ideal of manhood whereby a man can compete with and still be brother, son, and/or father to other men”. Do you agree with this assessment of Chaucer’s *The Knight’s Tale*? Discuss.

PART B

Either

3. “[V]iolence stems more from the world of learning ... than from matrimony and its structures”. Discuss the relationship between “reading and beating” in Chaucer’s *The Wife of Bath’s Prologue*.

Or

4. Critically examine the portrayal of justice for sexual violence in Chaucer’s *The Wife of Bath’s Tale*.
