ECO 2210Y:


12. David Herlihy, *Medieval Households* (Cambridge, Mass. 1985), chapters 4, 5, and 6 (pp. 79 - 156), for the later Middle Ages (on marriages, parenthood, childhood, etc.).


QUESTIONS:

1. What is the ‘European marriage pattern”? What influence did it come to have on European birth and death rates? What are the relationships between the age of first marriage, fertility, birth and net reproduction rates? What was the relationship, if any, between economic circumstances and the age of first marriage?

2. When did the European Marriage Pattern commence -- in the Middle Ages, or later, in the early-modern era? Is there any evidence for a European marriage pattern anywhere in medieval Europe? Where did it probably commence: in Mediterranean or in northern Europe.

3. What constraints were there on birth rates and family sizes? Did Europe's later-medieval population adjust its size to resources? What evidence is there for pre-modern population control within the institution of marriage (as opposed to later marriages).

4. In what social strata does the European marriage pattern first emerge? Does it evolve in a linear fashion?

5. What is the relationship between family structures and the European Marriage Pattern. Did the EMP presuppose a prevalence of the nuclear family household, as opposed to an extended family structure? What role did servants play in the medieval household ("servants in husbandry")?

6. What were the social and economic determinants and demographic consequences of ‘nuptiality”? Were the average age of first marriage (for women) and the proportion of women never married necessarily related to each other?