



**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY,
HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION
INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

NTBS103 INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOV-DEC, 2020

LECTURER: DR. T.M.MUNENGWA

DURATION: 24 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do not write your name on the answer sheet.
2. Answer **ONE** question.
3. Marks for each question are indicated.
4. Credit is given for neat, well written and lucid work.

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1. The Documentary hypothesis has been used, since the time of Julius Wellhausen, to explain the origins and formation of the Pentateuch, by many students of the Old Testament. However, for a while now, several students of the Old Testament have argued that it is inappropriate and/or inadequate to account for the formation of the Pentateuch.
 - a. Unpack the meaning of the term 'Pentateuch' **[20]**
 - b. Provide a brief summary of the classical documentary hypothesis, as proposed by Julius Wellhausen. **[40]**
 - c. Examine the usefulness and adequacy of the Documentary Hypothesis in addressing issues that arise from the Pentateuch. **[40]**

2. Yehezkel Kaufmann (cited in Brill and Leiden, 2011) categorised the report of the history of ancient Israel in Joshua to 2 Kings as 'historiosophy'.
 - a. Expose your understanding of the meaning of 'historiosophy'. **[20]**
 - b. How would you relate this proposal of Kaufmann to the M. Noth's proposal of the 'D' historian. **[30]**
 - c. Discuss how M. Noth's theory of the 'D' historian may be used to interpret the books of Joshua to 2 Kings. **[50]**

3. 'Prophetic Literature is the written word which attests to and grows out of the activities of ancient Israel's prophets.' (cf. David L. Petersen, 2012).
 - a. Describe your understanding of this statement **[20]**
 - b. In the light of your response to (a) discuss your view of how this prophetic literature was put together, preserved and transmitted. **[30]**
 - c. Comment on the assertion that prophetic literature gives an alternative view of the causes of the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple by the Babylonians. **[50]**

4. The nomenclature, 'Wisdom Literature' has been used to categorize a number of books and passages in the Old Testament that share certain themes and literary styles.
 - a. Expose your understanding of the term 'Wisdom Literature' as it is used in Old Testament Studies; **[20]**
 - b. Citing examples, discuss the main themes and characteristics associated with this literature; **[40]**
 - c. Examine the relevance and usefulness of the term 'Wisdom Literature' in Old Testament studies. **[40]**

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