



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION

INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TRP 201: AFRICAN RELIGION

END OF SECOND SEMESTER SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

AUGUST 2019

LECTURER: DR M.E. MUTAMBARA

DURATION: (3 HRS)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer **Two** questions of your choice from **Section A**
 2. Answer **Two** questions of your choice from **Section B**
 3. You will answer a total of **FOUR (4)** Questions.
 4. The marks allocated to each question or part of the question are shown at the end of each question.
 5. Credit will be awarded for logical, systematic and neat presentations
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SECTION A: Choose 2 (Two) Questions from This Section

1. Discuss the various terms scholars use to talk about religion in the African context and the reasons scholars give for their preferences. Which term makes the most sense to you, why? [*Reference to specific scholars is strongly encouraged*]. **(25 marks)**
2. Mbiti (1975) has paraphrased this famous statement on African culture, “I am because we are, and since we are, therefore I am.” Discuss your understanding of this statement with reference to an African society that you know very well. **(25 marks)**
3. Define any five (5) of the following terms and proceed to discuss their relevance to African religion: [*Where appropriate, the use of examples is strongly encouraged.*]
 - a. Religious leaders
 - b. Sacred places
 - c. Ancestral spirits
 - d. Religious objects
 - e. Religious festivals
 - f. Initiation rites**(25 marks)**
4. With the aid of specific examples, discuss how the study of African religion is relevant to your profession. **(25 marks)**

SECTION B: Choose 2 (Two) Questions From This Section

5. With the aid of relevant examples, discuss in detail how you would support the view that missionaries did not bring to Africa knowledge about God? **(25 marks)**
6. Discuss in detail at least five (5) sources of African religion. **(25 marks)**
7. Critically examine the five meanings and purpose of marriage in African society according to Mbiti. **(25 marks)**
8. Explain in detail the key concepts in the phenomenological approach to the study of religion and proceed to explain why the approach is popular with African scholars. **(25 marks)**

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