



“Investing in Africa’s future.”

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES, THEOLOGY &
EDUCATION**

**NHIR221: NGOs AND WORLD POLITICS
END OF SECOND SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATIONS
MAY/JUNE 2026
LECTURER: Y. Y. WASHAYA
DURATION: 3HRS**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer THREE (3) questions.
2. Each question carries 20 marks.
3. Credit will be given for clear argumentation, use of examples, and application of theory.
4. Where relevant, candidates must apply World-Systems Theory (WST), International Regime Theory (IRT), and Actor–Network Theory (ANT).

Question 1

NGOs are often described as neutral actors filling gaps left by weak states. Critically assess this claim by analysing NGOs as political actors in world politics. In your answer, discuss power, legitimacy, and accountability, and illustrate with at least two examples relevant to Africa. [20 marks]

Question 2

A donor-funded NGO programme is implemented in a rural district in Southern Africa to improve food security. The donor requires quarterly reporting, strict performance indicators, and compliance audits.

Using ANT, analyse how power operates through the programme network. Your answer must:

- Identify key actors and intermediaries (human and non-human),
- explain how accountability flows, and
- assess who is empowered and who is marginalised in the network. [20 marks]

Question 3

With reference to International Regime Theory, explain how NGOs influence international cooperation in one issue area of your choice (e.g., climate governance, humanitarianism, refugees, or human rights). In your answer, evaluate the limits of NGO influence and the role of power asymmetries within regimes. [20 marks]

Question 4

World-Systems Theory suggests that global inequality is reproduced through structural relations between the core and the periphery. Apply WST to evaluate whether NGOs in Africa are agents of

emancipation or instruments of dependency. Your answer must include a discussion of funding, agenda-setting, and long-term political-economic effects. [20 marks]

Question 5

Critically examine the localisation agenda in humanitarian and development assistance. In your answer, assess whether localisation represents a genuine transformation or a rebranding of existing power relations. Use WST and ANT to support your argument. [20 marks]