



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

**NTRP100 INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF RELIGION**

**END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**NOVEMBER 2021**

**LECTURER: MRS. T. BISHAU**

***INSTRUCTIONS***

1. Do not write your name on the answer sheet.
2. Answer **ONE** question.
3. Each question carries 100 marks
4. Credit is given for neat, well written and lucid work.

*dbm*

1. 'If we really want to understand religion, we must refer exclusively to the believers' testimony '
  - a) In the light of the above statement, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of empathy and *epochē* when studying religion. [40]
  - b) Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of phenomenology of religion as a way of studying religion. [60]
2. Every religion has its fair share of religious sacred places, which believers consider as sanctified and value as sites of historical religious importance.
  - a) Demonstrate your understanding of the meaning of sacred places. [40]
  - b) Referring to examples from your local community, examine scholarly views regarding the historical origins and importance of sacred places. [60]
3. Sacred practitioners play both positive and negative roles in a religious community.
  - a) Show your comprehension of views of scholars on the roles of sacred practitioners in any one religion of your choice. [40]
  - b) Evaluate the extent to which the phenomenological method may be applicable to study the activities of sacred practitioners. Refer to any **three** types of sacred practitioners in any religion of your choice you have studied for this paper. [60]

**-THE END-**