



# **MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**

**University Examinations for 2021/2022 Academic Year**

**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**ARE 200: COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS**

**DATE: 7/12/2021**

**TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM**

---

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Answer Question One and Any Other Two Questions.**

### **QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the importance of the study of Comparative Religion. (10 marks)
- b) Show the importance of Middle East as the source of main religions of the world. (10 marks)
- c) Give justification for studying theories of origin of religion. (10 marks)

### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Examine the contribution of religion to the contemporary society. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss the functionalist perspective of religion with regard to either Karl Marx or Emile Durkheim

### **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Choose Either Hinduism or Islam and describe the following:

- a) Origin and development (10 marks)
- b) Beliefs and practices (10 marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss the seven dimensions of religion as propounded by Ninian Smart. (10 marks)
- b) Giving relevant examples show how ancient religions came to influence modern religions. (10 marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Examine with examples the contribution of religion to the contemporary society. (10 marks)
- b) Examine the ways in which interfaith dialogue could be promoted. (10 marks)