



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2020/2021 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 RELIGION

DATE: 19/8/2021

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

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 (10 marks)

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)

Explain the following with regard to sociology of religion:

- a) Sacred and profane (10 marks)
- b) Religion as collective conscience (10 marks)