

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION JULY 2014

**TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE 111**

**COURSE CODE : AL 416 / IDE-AL 416**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS, CHOOSING ATLEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION.**
  - 2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A SEPARATE PAGE.**
  - 3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION HALL**
  - 4. IN THE ASSESMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**SECTION A: myths and legends**

**Question 1**

- 1. a. What is a legend? (5 marks)
- b. What are the main differences between a historic legend and a mythic legend? (15 marks)

**Question 2**

- 2. Comment on the following categories of myths
  - a. Culture myths (4marks)
  - b. Ritual myths (4marks)
  - c. Natural myths (4 marks)
  - d. Creation myths (4marks)
  - e. Myth of the hero (4 marks)

**Question 3**

- 3. How does the contemporary socio-political context in Swaziland influence the creation of Myths? (20 marks)

**SECTION B: Women and Orature**

**Question 4**

- 4. Considering the nature of the images of the portrayal of male characters in most of the oral narratives in the collection *Sinkayinkayi*, how far would you agree or disagree with the view that this portrayal purports to indict the men as the oppressors in their society? (20 Marks).

**Question 5**

- 5. With clear references drawn from different oral traditions, comment on the changing role of women in African societies (20 marks)

**Question 6**

- 6 Critically examine the image of the wife and step-mother motifs in Swazi orature (20 Marks)

**QUESTION 7**

- 7. Swaziland is frequently described as a patriarchal society. In what ways is that an accurate or inaccurate description of Swaziland? Explain and support your answer with reference to materials from women and oral literature in Africa (20 Marks).