

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2006**

**TITLE OF PAPER: MODERN CRITICAL THEORY**

**COURSE CODE: ENG 304/ IDE ENG 304**

**TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 30 MARKS.**
- 2. DO NOT REPEAT MATERIAL OR WRITE ABOUT THE SAME TEXT AT LENGTH MORE THAN ONCE.**
- 3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION ROOM.**
- 4. CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH WILL BE REWARDED AND GRAMMATICAL AND SPELLING MISTAKES PENALIZED.**

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

**Answer any two questions from the following**

Each question carries 30 marks

**Colonialism / Post Colonialism**

1. a) "The worst features of colonialism throughout the globe are combined in the Caribbean region" -- Discuss how these features helped in the development of postcolonial Caribbean literary theories

or

- b) Discuss any one of the following theories:  
i) African literary theories  
ii) Theories from the settler colonies

**Modernism / Postmodernism**

2. "Modernism and post modernism involve a deliberate and radical break with some of the traditional bases not only of western art, but of western culture in general" Discuss.

**Feminist Literary Criticism: Western / Afro American/ African**

3. a) Discuss the theory of womanism. Name the two types of womanism. Illustrate the theory with examples from African literature.

or

- b) "The attention to African orality undermines one of the major assumptions of literary criticism because this disrupts a notion of progressive linear literary history" How far is this related to African feminist criticism?

or

- c) Discuss the contributions of Virginia Woolf and Simone de Beauvoir to the field of feminist literary theories.

**Marxist literary Criticism**

4. Explain the concept of Marxism from an African literary perspective.

**Existentialism**

5. What are the basics of Existentialism? Discuss its pros and cons. Give examples from literary texts

**Reader Oriented Theories**

6. What is reader response criticism? Who is an actual reader and who is an implied reader? Discuss Wolfgang Iser's views on Reader-response criticism