

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL STUDIES

COURSE CODE : T1P1/IDET1P1

DURATION : TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. Answer three questions in all.
2. Answer at least one question from each section.
3. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS
YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO.

T1P1/DET1P1 (S)

SECTION ONE

1. Identify and discuss the major methodological trends in biblical interpretation associated with the following epochs.
 - a. The patristic era.
 - b. The monastic era.
 - c. The era of the Medieval University.
 - d. The reformation era.
 - e. From the Enlightenment to the modern period.
 - f. The post modern period. [20]
2. Plot the historical development of the different designations by which the community which produced the Hebrew Scriptures was identified over time. [20]
3. Discuss the contrasts in landscape and ecology of the land of ancient Israel during the time of the united monarchy. [20]
4. How did social organisation in pre-monarchic Israel shape the Israelite value system and vice versa? [20]
5. Discuss the significant role played by the *Sopherim* and *masoretes* in the production of the unified text of the Old Testament. [20]
6. How did prophetic literature compare in status with the Mosaic Torah? Why are the books within Deuteronomistic history classified together with the prophetic books in Jewish tradition? [20]

SECTION TWO

7. Discuss the important events of the intertestamental period which had a bearing on the emergence of ideas and concepts that are contained in the New Testament. [20]
8. Briefly describe with examples the following literary forms found in gospel material
 - a. Myth.
 - b. Parable.
 - c. Miracle story.
 - d. Pronouncement story.
 - e. Saying. [20]
9. What is the importance of the Acts narrative in the New Testament? [20]
10. Which English translations of the Bible are suitable for academic study and why? [25]