

COURSE CODE T3P2 (M) 2011

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

B.A. /B.ED III/IDE

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER 2011

TITLE OF PAPER: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS

COURSE TITLE: T3P2

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: (1) ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS  
(2) ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

TOTAL MARKS:100

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

1. Explain the importance and value of the academic study of African indigenous religions. Illustrate your views with examples drawn from current studies.
2. Write a critique of Kasanene's (1993) description of the basic beliefs of Swazi Traditional Religion.
3. Critically discuss current analyses of traditional African worldviews regarding cosmology and morality/ethics.
4. To what extent, if any, would you agree with Hilda Kuper's (1986) description of the Swazi Incwala as "a drama of kingship"? Give clear examples to support your views.
5. "On closer examination it becomes clear that all religions contain prescriptive teachings on gender roles, and religious beliefs are themselves significantly shaped by gender perspectives" (Ursula King 1997). Comment on this claim with specific reference to the place of women in African Indigenous Religions.
6. What is the place of puberty rites in contemporary African society? Give relevant examples selected from current literature.
7. Propose a suitable model for relating African Indigenous Religions to African Christianity.
8. To what extent, if any, would you draw insights from moral and ethical teachings of African Indigenous Religions to meet contemporary challenges such as abject poverty, gender discrimination, environmental degradation, and violations of human rights? Give clear examples to support your views.