

COURSE CODE TRS 401 (M) 2013
UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER 2013
THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
B.A. / B.ED IV / IDE
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2013

TITLE OF PAPER: RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD I

COURSE NUMBER: TRS 401

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

TOTAL MARKS: 60

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

- 1 . What is meant by the concept “*dukkha*” in Buddhist thought? Explain how, according to the Buddha, *dukkha* can be overcome.
- 2 . “Every Chinese wears a Confucian hat, Taoist robes, and Buddhist sandals” (Huston Smith). Discuss this statement with reference to the impact that Confucianism and Taoism have had (and still continue to have) in Chinese society.
- 3 . What is meant by the concept “*Kami*” in Shintoism? Explain compare and contrast Shinto beliefs, ethics and rituals with those of any other indigenous religion that you have studied.
- 4 . “If a Muslim were to summarize the way Islam counsels people to live, the answer might be: It teaches them to walk the straight path” (Huston Smith). Discuss this statement, and explain what it means to “walk the straight path” in Islamic thought and practice.
- 5 . What are the visions, if any, of the world’s religions regarding justice and peace on planet Earth? In your response, draw examples from at least three world religions.
- 6 . “Global citizenship not only includes privileges but also responsibilities. The problems and challenges have to be faced by all. For solving the problems faced by the world, not only religions but all human institutions should work together” (Abraham Oommen). Comment on this statement with special reference to proposing a suitable model that could be employed by Christians to promote mutual relations and unity between Christians and adherents of other religions of the world.