UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER 2014

THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

B.A / B.ED IV / IDE

TITLE OF PAPER: PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGION

COURSE CODE: TRS101

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INTRUCTIONS:
1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS, AT LEAST ONE (1) QUESTION MUST BE ATTEMPTED FROM EACH SECTION.

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

TOTAL MARKS : 60

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

SECTION A

1. Explain the reasons why there is no universal definition of religion. Illustrate your facts with relevant examples.
2. What do we learn from philosophy of religion about religious language and religious truth? Give relevant examples to illustrate your facts.

3. According to Ninian Smart, phenomenology "is an intentionally bracketing method, which tries to bring out the nature of believers' ideas and feelings. It involves walking in the moccasins of the faithful" (1999). Explain this statement and illustrate your views with relevant examples.

SECTION B

4. What is meant by "African Traditional Religion"? Give a phenomenological description of the core beliefs of African Traditional Religion.

5. Discuss the main beliefs and ethical teachings of Hinduism from a phenomenological view.

6. Select **one** of the following questions (i, ii, iii) and are answer the respective questions that follow:

i. Is Buddhism a religion? Describe from a Buddhist perspective the path to salvation.

ii. What are the fundamental doctrines of Islam to a Muslim? Describe the five pillars of Islam from a Muslim perspective.

iii. "One of the doctrines of the Baha'i Faith is that Baha'Ullah is God's Messenger for the modern times" (Ndlovu 1997). Explain this statement with reference to the main doctrines of the Baha'i Faith.