

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
&
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

2013/2014 MAIN EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2013

COURSE TITLE : STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT I

COURSE CODE : TRS 200

DURATION : TWO (2) HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Choose and answer three (3) questions.
- b. For some of the questions refer closely to the relevant attached documents.
- c. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

All questions are worth 20 marks.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTILL THE INVIGILATOR
GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO**

TRS 200 (M) Studies in the Old Testament I, November 2013

Question 1

Explain why it is necessary to define the term Old Testament in biblical scholarship. [20]

Question 2

Discuss the principles on which performance criticism of biblical texts is based. [20]

Question 3

Identify and explain the implicit fundamental questions of human existence that the primeval traditions respond to. [20]

Question 4

Write an analytic commentary on the observation that the patriarchal narratives are story and not history. [20]

Question 5

Draw critical concepts from the book of Exodus to demonstrate how the Exodus narrative reflects a sense of self-understanding of the Jews as a community. [20]

Question 6

Identify ways in which various interpretative methods can help to explain the narrative discrepancies between the traditions of Joshua and Judges in the manner each tells the story of Hebrew settlement in ancient Palestine. [20]

Question 7

Explain the two concerns that were central to the reconstruction of the post-exilic Jewish community as evident in the literature of Ezra-Nehemiah. [20]

Question 8

Analyse the view that “the Solomonic Temple was an embodiment of the unity of religion and politics in ancient Israelite community” with reference to relevant illustrations drawn from the books of the Chronicler. [20]