

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

**TRS 301 SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2015**

**TITLE OF PAPER : Studies in the New Testament I**  
**COURSE CODE : TRS 301**  
**DURATION : 2 Hours**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Choose and **answer three (3) questions in all.**
2. Write in **clear, grammatically correct sentences.**
3. The **paper consists of three (3) printed pages cover page included.**
4. **All questions carry equal marks.**

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

## TRS 301 Studies in the New Testament I, (S) July 2015

### Question 1

What were the political and religious beliefs of the Sadducees? On what grounds did this religious group clash with Jesus? [20]

### Question 2

Comment of John's version on the burial of Jesus provided below. To what extent does this version of the burial of Jesus compare with the Synoptics? [20]

The Burial of Jesus (John 19:38-42)

<sup>38</sup> Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. <sup>39</sup> He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>40</sup> Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. <sup>41</sup> At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. <sup>42</sup> Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

### Question 3

Explore the life, loves and hates of the community of the Beloved disciple. [20]

### Question 4

Assess the truth of the claim that Luke was a Hellenistic historian. [20]

**Question 5**

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made” (John 1: 1 -3). Explore John’s understanding of the person of Jesus and why this gospel has the highest Christology. [20]

**Question 6**

In what ways did the experience of Paul on his way to Damascus shaped his understanding of Jesus, the Jewish Law and the relationship between Jews and Gentiles?