

University of Swaziland
Faculty of Humanities &
Institute of Distance Education
Department of Theology & Religious Studies

2017/2018 Main Examination Paper Second Semester May, 2018

Course code : TRS 112
Course title : A History of Biblical Interpretation
Duration : Two (2) Hrs.

Instructions

- a. Answer three (3) questions.
- b. Your answer to each question should be structured and consistently focused on the issue about which you are writing.
- c. Make sure you accurately label the questions that you have opted to answer.
- d. Indicate on the top cover of your answer script the name of your programme of study and whether you are enrolled in the full time or IDE programme.

*NB: All questions are worth 20 marks.

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

TRS 112: A History of Biblical Interpretation (M) May, 2018

Question 1

Discuss Rabbi Saadia's rules for the use of allegorical interpretation in Jewish text interpretation.

Question 2

With reference to the works of key personalities, demonstrate how early and late medieval Christian biblical interpretation was characterised by multiple strands.

Question 3

Explain the differences in approach and emphases in the methods of interpretation of the monastics and scholastics in light of the prevailing historical circumstances of the medieval period.

Question 4

Comment on Martin Luther's principles of biblical interpretation in the context of the movement of church reform that he spearheaded.

Question 5

In what ways were people like Benedict Spinoza, Thomas Hobbes and Jean Astruc precursors to the academic study of the Bible?

Question 6

Assess the relationship between biblical interpretation and reception history of the Bible.
