

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

**2017/2018 Supplementary Examination Paper, July 2018**

**Course code** : TRS 112  
**Course Title** : A History of Biblical Interpretation  
**Duration** : 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 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 a enrolled in the full time or IDE programme.

\*NB: All questions are worth 20 marks.

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

## **TRS 112: A History of Biblical Interpretation (S) July, 2018**

### **Question 1**

Discuss the scholarly view that the process of translating Hebrew sacred writings into Aramaic, Greek, and Latin was itself an act of text interpretation.

### **Question 2**

Explain the principles on which *midrashic* interpretation of the Jewish Scriptures by ancient Rabbis is based.

### **Question 3**

In what way is interpretation of the Old Testament by New Testament writers influenced by their perception on the relationship between the two testaments?

### **Question 4**

Discuss the interpretative issues over which the Franciscans and scholastics disagreed.

### **Question 5**

Discuss the merits and demerits of the historical-critical method.

### **Question 6**

Define the following concepts which apply to the interpretative approaches across the spectrum of trends in a post-critical age in the academy:

- Hermeneutical circle
  - Option for the poor
  - Hermeneutics of suspicion
  - Hermeneutics of retrieval
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