UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND FACULTY OF HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MAIN EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2017

TITLE OF PAPER: Religious Ethics

COURSE CODE : TRS 205

DURATION : 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer three (3) questions in all.

2. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

3. Each Question carries 20 marks.

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

Question 1

Choose a teaching by one religion of your choice and give ethical implications, both positive and negative, of such a teaching [20]

Question 2

Critically discuss the following ethical frameworks: [20]

- a) Principlism
- b) Casuistry

Question 3

Give a critical ethical assessment of what any one religion of your choice teaches on sexual orientation. [20]

Question 4

Ethical dilemmas, also known as moral dilemmas, are situations in which there is a choice to be made between two options, neither of which can be carried out without resulting in another ethical problem. Elaborate on what you would ethically decide to do in the following dilemma: [20]

A pregnant woman leading a group of people out of a cave on a coast is stuck in the mouth of that cave. In a short time high tide will be upon them, and unless she is unstuck, they will all be drowned except the woman, whose head is out of the cave. Fortunately, (or unfortunately,) someone has with him a stick of dynamite. There seems no way to get the pregnant woman loose without using the dynamite which will inevitably kill her; but if they do not use it everyone will drown.

Question 5

Which of the ethical frameworks you have studied in class do you find more compatible with your culture? Explain your answer. [20]