

**UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
&
FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

MAIN EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2018

**TITLE OF PAPER : Faith and Wisdom in the Jewish Canon
COURSE CODE : TRS 407
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 including the cover page.**
4. **All questions carry equal marks.**

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

TRS 407 Faith and Wisdom in the Jewish canon (M) November 2018

Question 1

In what ways is the world a sacred text on which God's message to humanity is written? [20]

Question 2

With reference to the books you have studied in this course, identify and discuss the defining features of Wisdom literature. [20]

Question 3

Who is Satan according to the Jewish understanding and in what ways does this view compare with that of Christians? [20]

Question 4

How would you respond if someone tells you that "You reap what you sow and you get what you deserve?" Use any book(s) you have studied to support your answer. [20]

Question 5

Discuss the arguments raised by the "Fear God" sages concerning the beginning of knowledge. [20]

Question 6

Write a critical commentary on this passage taken from Proverbs 1:8-19:

Warnings against Evil Companions

- ⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction,
and reject not your mother's teaching;
⁹ for they are a fair garland for your head,
and pendants for your neck.
¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you,
do not consent.
¹¹ If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood,
let us wantonly ambush the innocent;
¹² like Sheol let us swallow them alive
and whole, like those who go down to the pit:
¹³ we shall find all precious goods,

we shall fill our houses with spoil;
¹⁴ throw in your lot among us,
we will all have one purse"—
¹⁵ my son, do not walk in the way with them,
hold back your foot from their paths;
¹⁶ for their feet run to evil,
and they make haste to shed blood.
¹⁷ For in vain is a net spread
in the sight of any bird;
¹⁸ but these men lie in wait for their own blood,
they set an ambush for their own lives.
¹⁹ Such are the ways of all who get gain by violence;
it takes away the life of its possessors.

(Proverbs 1: 8-19, RSV).
