

University of Eswatini
Faculty of Humanities &
Institute of Distance Education
Department of Theology & Religious Studies
2019/2020 Main Examination Paper (First Semester) Nov. /December 2019

Course code : TRS 223
Course title : The Bible and the Arts
Duration : 2 (Two) Hours

Instructions

- a. Answer three questions.
- b. Your answer to each question must be structured and consistently focused on the subject matter at hand.
- c. Indicate on the front cover of your answer script the name of your programme of study.

NB: All questions are worth 20 marks.

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

Question 1

Comment on the following quote attributed to Spanish artist Pablo Picasso in the memoirs co-written by his partner and an art critic: "God is really only another artist. He invented the giraffe, the elephant, and the cat. He has no real style."

Question 2

Give a critical analysis of the value of the Bible in the development of symbols of faith in Judeo-Christian communities.

Question 3

Explain how it is possible, or even necessary, for liSwati hip hop artist Skeel to draw lyrics from the Bible and compose Christian gospel music within a secular genre as he states in the following quote:

"As I walk on by, I hear them say there goes that Jesus freak, but I pay them no mind because I'd rather hear Jesus speak. *I have the Bible as my lyrics all I need is a Jesus beat,*" (Swazi Observer 14 August 2017- emphasis added).

Question 4

With reference to any book(s) in the Bible, explain ways in which performance arts were important in the lives of ancient Israel.

Question 5

Explain the existence of notable differences in detail evident in the paintings of the Last Supper by a number of famous European artists (Duccio, Ghirlandaio, da Vinci, Holbein the Younger, de Juanes, II Tintoretto, and Rubens).

Question 6

Discuss the flaws of the "infidelity" criterion that was used by American Evangelicals to discount film producer Darren Aronofsky's film *Noah* in 2014.
