

COURSE CODE TRS401 (M) 2020

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER AUGUST 2020

THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

B.A / B.ED IV / IDE

TITLE OF PAPER: RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD II

COURSE CODE: TRS401

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

TOTAL MARKS : 60

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
THE INVIGILATOR

1. On what bases, if any, can you describe Buddhism as a world religion?
2. "Confucian norms for behaviour, written in the spring of the ancient cultural system, are very much alive in the winter of the modern present" (Saso 1997). Explain this statement and discuss the areas of convergence and divergence between Confucian and Taoist values.
3. "Shinto has a highly complex history of its own. It resists systematic portrayal" (Reid 1997). Give a critique of this claim with special reference to the basic features, doctrines and rituals of Shinto.
4. "O you who believe! Believe in Allah and His Apostle and the Book which He sent down to His Apostle and the Book which He sent down before: and wherever decries Allah and His angels and His books and His apostles and the Last Day has indeed stayed off" (Qura'n 4:136). Explain this verse from the Qur'an with reference to the core doctrines of Islam.
5. Discuss the points of convergence and divergence between Islam and the Baha'i Faith. In your view, what is the future of the Baha'i Faith?
6. "People of all faiths have held hands to support and comfort each other and join together in prayer. We need to continue to hold hands as we shape a more just and peaceful society" (Braybrooke 2004). Discuss this observation critically, and propose a model or models of forging mutual interfaith relations and peace in contemporary society.