



**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENTS' AFFAIRS**

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER REGULAR EXAMINATION

**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELAOR OF
EDUCATION (ARTS)**

COURSE CODE: LIT 310

COURSE TITLE: CRITICAL THEORY

DATE: 6TH DECEMBER, 2019

TIME: 9.00AM -12.00PM

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- **SEE INSIDE**

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 2 PRINTED PAGES

PLEASE TURN OVER

STREAM: BED (Arts)

DURATION: 3Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- i. Answer *Question ONE* and any other *TWO* Questions
- ii. Do not write on the question paper
- iii. Avoid using the same text to answer more than one question

Question One

- a) Explain the term 'critical theory' (4Marks)
- b) Differentiate between Literary and Literal meaning in criticism (4Marks)
- c) In reference to a text of your choice, discuss the main principles of critical theory (10Marks)
- d) Carry out a critical analysis of a text of your choice using structuralism or any other theory you have learnt in this course (12Marks)

Question Two

- a) Outline the concept of Historical determinism and Dialectical materialism in Marxist criticism (10Marks)
- b) Post-Psychoanalysis as a theory is concerned with the writer's suppressed dreams. Discuss this view by in reference to a text of your choice (10 Marks)

Question Three

- a) With a focus on the strengths and weaknesses of a theory, give your critical assessment of New criticism/formalism (10Marks)
- b) Apply the FIVE principles of reader-response criticism to a text of your choice (10Marks)

Question Four

- a. Feminists are concerned with the fact that women have to design a language which can fill the gaps in the male dominated society. Explore this view (10Marks)
- b. Discuss any FIVE concerns of the post-colonial critics (10 Marks)

Question Five

- a) Ngugi Wa Thiongo's play *I will Marry When I want* is a true reflection of a society that is structured in classes. Using a relevant theory, respond to this view using vivid examples from the text. (20 Marks)
