



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

P.O. Box 62157

00200 Nairobi - KENYA

Telephone: 891601-6

MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY- APRIL 2019 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION

REGULAR PROGRAMME

MLT 501: CONTEMPORARY LITERARY THEORIES

Date: APRIL 2019

Duration: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any FOUR Questions

- Q1. Critically examine five points that illustrate the role of theory in literary studies. Make reference to specific literary contexts. **15 marks**
- Q2. a) **Either**
Compare and contrast the steps taken by Post-colonial and Psychoanalytic reading of literature. Focus on THREE points from two texts you are familiar with. **15 marks**
- Or**
- b) Choose one text and assess five issues that it presents in line with the tenets of Marxist literary theory. **15 marks**
- Q3. Choose two literary theories covered in this course and critically analyse THREE ways in which one theory is a reaction to the other in practice. **15 marks**
- Q4. Referring closely to two literary texts, evaluate FIVE basic assumptions of Reader-response theory. **15 marks**
- Q5. Evaluate the strengths and limitations of Postmodernism as a method of literary criticism. Focus on FIVE points from two specific texts. **15 marks**
- Q6. Critically analyse THREE ways in which literary theory seeks to decolonize methodologies and offer "other ways of knowing" in the literary discipline. **15 marks**