



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

SEPTEMBER –DECEMBER 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION

REGULAR PROGRAMME

MLT 501: CONTEMPORARY LITERARY THEORIES

Date: DECEMBER 2021

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. **Either**

a) 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.

(15marks)

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)

DTE DEC 2021

END