



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2017/2018

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ARE 200: COMPARATIVE RELIGION

DATE: 5/12/2017

TIME:

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One (Compulsory) And Any Other Two Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- (a) List at least five reasons of studying world religions (5 marks)
- (b) State the common characteristics of world religions (5 marks)
- (c) Briefly explain why Karl Max considers religion as an illusion. (5 marks)
- (d) Outline the dimensions of religion as illustrated by Ninian Smart. (5 marks)
- (e) Give a brief description on the importance of interreligious dialogue (5 marks)
- (f) Briefly narrate the historical background of Christianity. (5 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Discuss the sociological theory of religion according to Emile Durkheim

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Discuss the impact of world religion in the current society (10 marks)
- (b) Why is Ecumenism important in the contemporary world religions (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Discuss the five pillars of Islam

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- (a) Critically analyze the possibility of higher population growth rate in Islamic religion than in Christianity by the second half of this century. (10 marks)
- (b) Describe the ecological themes in Taoism Religion (10 marks)