



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
ARE 204: BELIEF SYSTEMS IN AFRICA
SUPPLEMENTARY/ SPECIAL EXAMINATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer questions ONE and any other TWO questions.

- 1 (a) Analyze the various interpretations of the term “Africa” and the challenges there-of. **(10 marks)**
(b) Describe the importance of rituals in African cosmology. **(10 marks)**
(c) With concrete examples, highlight the reasons behind the continuity and persistence of indigenous African beliefs and practices. **(10 marks)**
2. With reference to Placide Tempels’ book entitled “The Bantu Philosophy”, discuss the African ontology. **(20 marks)**
3. (a) Show the relationship of the following to indigenous African beliefs:
 (i) Totem
 (ii) Taboo
 (iii) Magic **(10 marks)**
(b) With concrete illustration, discuss the African world-view. **(10 marks)**
4. (a) Many Christianized Africans visit the diviners in moments of crises. Account for this behaviour portrayed by these Christianized Africans. **(10 marks)**
(b) Using specific examples, state the effects of witchcraft in the contemporary Kenyan society. **(10 marks)**
5. Describe elements of continuity and discontinuity in indigenous African beliefs and practices **(20 marks)**