



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES.

SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR EDUCATION (ARTS)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ARE 202: CRITICAL STUDY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT TEXTS

DATE: 13/4/2023

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

Attempt Question ONE and any other TWO

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Describe the synoptic problem. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss the importance of studying the Bible critically. (10 marks)
- c) Highlight FIVE contradictions that appear in the Synoptic Gospels with regard to the infancy narratives. (5 marks)
- d) State the difficulties in the study of the Bible. (5 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Illustrate and explain the following theories explaining the synoptic problem.

- a) Augustinian theory (4 marks)
- b) Two-source theory (6 marks)
- c) Four-Source theory (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss the reasons for development of the New Testament Canon. (10 marks)
- b) Account for the process of canonization of the New Testament. (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Use the Gospel of Luke and discuss it with reference to the following:

- a) Authorship (2 marks)
- b) Date (2 marks)
- c) Distinctive characteristics. (8 marks)
- d) Relevance to Kenya today. (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Explain how each of the following scholarly methods used to study the Gospel functions in analyzing a document:

- a) Historical criticism (10 marks)
- b) Redaction criticism (10 marks)