



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2022/2023 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES.

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

ARE 509: RELIGION, WITCHCRAFT, MAGIC AND SCIENCE

DATE: 25/4/2023

TIME: 2:00 – 5:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS.

1. (a) By giving examples, distinguish between witchcraft and sorcery. (5 marks)
 (b) Explain the types and principles of magic (10 marks)
 (c) Examine the similarities and differences between religion, magic and science. (15 marks)
2. Discuss Bronislaw Malinowski's observation that there are no peoples however primitive without religion, magic, scientific attitude or science. (15 marks)
3. Frazer described magic as "the bastard sister of science", arising from "one great disastrous fallacy". Discuss. (15 marks)
4. (a) Explain the theory of supernatural causation of illness as advanced by George P. Murdock. (5 marks)
 (b) Show the significance of witchcraft and sorcery in the modern society. (10 marks)
5. Critically evaluate the theories concerning the origin of totemism and taboo and their relation to exogamy. (15 marks)