



*(Knowledge for Development)*

# **KIBABII UNIVERSITY**

## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR  
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

### **MAIN EXAMINATION**

#### **FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 811**

**COURSE TITLE: THEORIES AND PRACTICE OF LITERARY CRITICISM**

**DATE: 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2022**

**TIME: 2.00 - 4.00PM**

#### **INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **ANY THREE** Questions.

**TIME: 2 Hours**

*This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over. ►*

**KIBU** observes **ZERO** tolerance to examination cheating.

**QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Critically examine the relevance of theory in literary criticism. (4 marks)
- b) Briefly illustrate the difference between cultural criticism and formal criticism. (4 marks)
- c) Discuss how ideas fronted by the following classical theorists provide critics with models for reading contemporary works of art: (12 marks)
- i. Horace
  - ii. Longinus
  - iii. Aristotle
  - iv. Plato

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the proposition that Postcolonialism is many theories in one.

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the factors that led to the emergence of 20<sup>th</sup> century criticism with reference to theories and texts studied in this course.

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Examine with illustrations from relevant works how St. Augustine's ideas relate with those of his predecessors.

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

While focusing on the works studied in this course, examine the centrality of structural discourses in literary criticism.