



NOVEMBER 2018 – EXAMINATION

Department of Religion Studies

Lecturers: Dr Shahid Mathee and Dr Elina Hankela

Course: Religion, Politics & Society REL2BB2 / REL2B21

Date: November 2018

Duration: 2 hours

Total Marks: 100

General instructions

This exam paper has **two sections** (Section One & Section Two).

The duration of the exam is **two hours**.

Therefore, you have **one hour for each section**.

Please answer the questions for Section One and those for Section Two **in different answer books**.

Section One: Politics (50 marks)

There are four (4) questions. Do **two (2) only** from the four.

Note that each question counts 25 marks.

Question 1

Discuss the debate between two Roman Catholic theologians on the “Indians” having a soul or not. What were the long-term consequences? Religion as the first marker of racist discourse in the Western, modern, colonial Christian worldview must feature in your response. (25)

Question 2

Black South African Christian clergymen active in the struggle against Apartheid had to confront the question of revolutionary violence in the struggle against the brutal violence of the Apartheid’ state. Discuss in detail their responses (25).

Question 3

“The last shall be first and the first shall be last”. Explain what appears to be Fanon’s drawing on a biblical verse as the final outcome of decolonization to be realized through violence. (25)

Question 4

“Give us your plains and you can gladly have our baskets.” Drawing on this answer of Ben M’Hidi explain the logic of the natives’ violence in contrast to the violence of the colonial state and its settlers. In so far as Ben M’Hidi was Muslim how might he have drawn on his religious text to inflict violence on the French occupiers (25)

PLEASE FIND QUESTIONS FOR SECTION TWO (RELIGION AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA) ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

Section Two: Religion and Development in Africa (50 marks)

- You are required to answer **TWO questions**: Question 1 and Question 2.
 - Write your answers in the form of **essays**.
 - Each question is out of 25 marks and the section is thus out of 50 marks.
 - You must use class discussions and course readings to justify your argument in each essay.
 - Justify and nuance your argument by discussing the question from different perspectives.
 - **Please note!** You must use any one reading in answering only one question. In other words, you must use different course readings in each essay. For example, if you use the reading by Adogame in answering Question 1, you should not use it in answering Question 2.
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QUESTION 1:

CHOOSE AND ANSWER A OR B:

A) Drawing on at least four different readings assigned for this course, discuss whether you think that religion and people's religious worldviews should or should not be taken into consideration when development organisations, like the United Nations Development Programme, plan development projects in Africa. (25 marks)

OR

B) Drawing on at least three different readings assigned for this course, discuss 1) in what ways religion influences the life and identity of women and/or men in Africa and 2) how you think development workers could use this insight when they design projects that aim at empowering women or promoting gender equality in Africa. (25 marks)

QUESTION 2:

Drawing on at least four different readings assigned for this course, discuss whether you think that the involvement of faith-based organisations (FBOs) in development and caring work in Africa should be encouraged or discouraged. (25 marks)