



INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (IBP) DECEMBER 2016 SESSION
EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS
ALT 802: THEORY OF LITERATURE

TIME: 2.00 P.M. - 5.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any three questions.

1. Define the term “Literary theory” and discuss its significance in the reading and interpretive processes. Give ample examples from texts used in this course. (20 marks)
2. Using examples, discuss how postcolonial theory is instrumental in the understanding the literatures of formerly colonized nations. (20 marks)
3. With examples from literary texts of your choice, discuss the defining principles of Marxist theory and how Marxism is a critique of capitalism and various forms of oppression. (20 marks)
4. Exemplify how feminism is important in understanding the power and gender dynamics in texts. (20 marks)
5. Discuss, with illustrations, the tenets and application of the following theories in literature: psychological criticism (psychoanalysis), narratology, ecocriticism, formalism. (20 marks)
