



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

INSTITUTION BASED PROGRAMME (DECEMBER SESSION)

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

SZL 402: MARINE ECOLOGY

DATE: FRIDAY, 4TH MAY 2012

TIME: 2.00 P.M. – 4.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer **ALL** questions in section A and any **ONE** question in section B.
In each question, all questions carry equal marks. Illustrate your answers with well-labelled diagrams wherever appropriate.

SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS (40 marks)

1. Distinguish between neap and spring tides.
2. Classify marine algae based on pigmentation.
3. Discuss briefly the advantages and disadvantages of the high sediment inflows by River Sabaki into the marine environment.
4. Describe the ecological functions of sea grasses.
5. Outline the consequences of ocean currents.
6. State five buoyancy related adaptations of marine organisms.
7. Name the dinoflagellate that lives in association with corals and state how each benefit from the relationship.
8. State the factors influencing the distribution and abundance of marine organisms along the sandy and muddy shores.

SECTION B: ANSWER ONLY ONE QUESTION (30 marks)

9. Discuss the adaptations of mangroves to their harsh environment.
10. Discuss the threats and conservation strategies of coral reef ecosystems along the Kenya coast
