



**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2014 /2015 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**MAIN EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARTS IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 812**

**COURSE TITLE: LITERATURE AND LIFE IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES I**

**DATE: 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**TIME: 8.00-11.00**

---

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

- Answer question one and any other two questions
- Avoid the repetition of texts in more than one question

**Question One (Compulsory)**

- a) Identify and discuss the defining events and influences of the different literary epochs of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. (10 marks)
- b) Referring to specific texts and authors, explain how the events and influences discussed above impacted on the literary production of each particular epoch. (20 marks)

***Question Two***

To what extent does Hardy's literary career straddle two significant literary milieus, the realist and modernist? Use his novel *Jude the Obscure* to discuss this. (15 marks)

***Question Three***

Discuss how Tolstoy uses different characters and conflicts in *Anna Karenina* to reveal the different aspects of life in Russian in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

***Question Four***

Referring to any two poems by T.S. Eliot studied in the course, critique the poet's main concerns and how they relate to the modernist era he was writing in. (15 marks)

***Question Five***

Focusing on either Toni Morrison's *Beloved* or Caryl Phillips' *Crossing the River*, explain the writer's role as an alternative voice and witness to what had hitherto been silenced in Western canonical texts. (10 marks)