



**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2014 /2015 ACADEMIC YEAR**

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

**MAIN EXAMINATION**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 316**

**COURSE TITLE: EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN DRAMA**

**DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

**TIME: 8.00-10.00 a.m.**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

Question one is compulsory. Attempt any other two questions from the sections provided

**QUESTION ONE COMPULSORY (30 marks)**

- a) A secular society with a leadership that is based on human wisdom is full of short comings and it's bound to breed sufferings from time to time. Cite persuasive illustrations from Antigone, Oedipus the King and Electra to write in defense of this statement.

**OR**

- b) Family relations seem to take a predictable pattern in all the Sophoclean drama. While citing illustrations from the three plays; identify and explain the four familial relations highlighted and their effect on the plot of the three plays.

**QUESTION TWO –ELIZABETHAN DRAMA (Chose one question from this part)**

“Love is such a strong human emotion that it can be represented on a dramatic stage”. Cite four dramatic techniques used in Shakespeare’s *Merchant of Venice* to show love can herald dramatic actions. (20 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (Chose one question from this section)**

“Modern European drama is a caustic indictment of the political class in modern Europe”. Cite examples from Ibsen’s *An Enemy of the People* to justify this statement. (20 marks)

**OR**

“What ails many societies the world over is that the sources of their moral and spiritual lives are poisoned and that the whole fabrics of their civic communities are founded on the polluted soils of falsehood”. Write in defense of this statement while giving succinct illustrations from Ibsen’s *An Enemy of the People* and Brecht’s *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (20 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR**

“Humans are inherently deceitful regardless of their social, political or economic class they belong to in society”. With reference to Brecht’s *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, discuss. (20 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE**

“Real conflict in drama resides in the obstacles which are raised in the way of an individual character’s desire to get what they want in life”. How is Hansberry’s representation of characters in *A Raisin in The Sun* a reflection of this statement? (20 marks)