



## **KIBABII UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**

**[A CONSTITUENT COLLEGE OF MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE &  
TECHNOLOGY]**

**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS (1)**

**FOR THE DEGREE**

**OF**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 100**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDIES**

**DATE:**

**TIME:**

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### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Answer FOUR questions. Question ONE is compulsory.**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**KIBUCO observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating**

## QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- a) “After a frantic search, she came across an old umbrella stick and decided that it would have to do. With shaky hands and driven by sheer determination, she sat on the earthen floor and got about the business of ejecting the baby. She had never done this before and when she did, wished she had not.’ Examine how Millicent Ojiambo has addressed the issue of abortion in *One More Chance* (2012)? (10 marks)
- b) “Baraka and Chozi had been pleasantly surprised when Waridi expressed her desire to place her child for adoption...In return, Baraka and Chozi had pledged to help Waridi go back to school and further her education to the highest institution of learning.” Paying close attention to *One More Chance* (2012) by Millicent Ojiambo, discuss the relevance of the title ‘One More Chance.’ (5 marks)
- c) Discuss the characters of Lawino and Ocol in *Song of Lawino* (1966) by Okot p’Bitek. (10 marks)

## QUESTION TWO

- a) “It was clear that there was hostility between Chozi and her mother-in-law and several times, she had to contend with several women who Baraka’s mother pushed under her son’s nose. If word ever came out that Chozi was barren, her mother-in-law would most likely throw a party.” With close reference to Millicent Ojiambo’s *One More Chance* (2012), examine the themes of love and marriage. (9 marks)
- b) What are the main subjects in Okot p’Bitek’s *Song of Lawino* (1966)? (6 marks)

## QUESTION THREE

- a) Explain what you understand by the term ‘genres of literature.’ (4 marks)
- b) “Blossoms of the Savannah is a riveting account of two sisters, Taiyo and Resian, who are not only on the verge of womanhood, but are torn between their personal ambitions and the humiliating duty to the Nasila tradition.” Discuss the treatment of female characters in *Blossoms of the Savannah* (2011) by H. Ole Kulet. (11 marks)

## QUESTION FOUR

Relate how Wahome Mutahi and Goro wa Kamau have handled the themes HIV/Aids in *The House of Doom* (2004) and “**When the Sun Goes Down**” respectively. (15 marks)

## QUESTION FIVE

- a) Explain the meaning of the following: (6 marks)
- i. Trickster stories
  - ii. Monster stories
  - iii. Aetiological stories
- b) Make a critical analysis of any ONE of the following stories: (9 marks)
- i. “**Tuesday Siesta**” (2010) by Gabriel Garzia Marquez

- ii. **“The Guilt” (2010)** by Rayda Jacobs
- iii. **“Leaving”** by Moyez Vassanji

### QUESTION SIX

“The tyranny of tradition and chauvinism is brilliantly exposed in this passionate plea for human understanding. The author’s sympathetic insights into the conditions of women – whether black or white – deserve recognition throughout the world.” While portraying the treatment of lead female characters, discuss the main issues in *Scarlet Song* (1986) by Mariama Ba. (20 marks)

### OR

“*The Floods* is the study of the abuse of power by military dictatorships in contemporary Africa, and of the dehumanizing effect that this has on both the power-drunk agents of the state and those of the oppressed who escape total liquidation at the hands of the former.” Discuss the treatment of the theme of poor political leadership in *The Floods* (1988) by John Ruganda. (20 marks)

### QUESTION SEVEN

Discuss the main issues in any **ONE** of the following novels: (15 marks)

- i. *Things Fall Apart* (1958) by Chinua Achebe
- ii. *So Long a Letter* (1980) by Mariama Ba



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**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS (2)**

**FOR THE DEGREE**

**OF**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**COURSE CODE: LIT 100**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION OF LITERARY STUDIES**

**DATE:**

**TIME:**

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### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Answer FOUR questions. Question ONE is compulsory.**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**KIBUCO observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating**

### QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- a) Make a detailed analysis of Wahome Mutahi's *The House of Doom* (2004). (15 marks)
- b) Make a critical evaluation of any ONE of the following stories: (10 marks)
  - iii. "*Tuesday Siesta*" (2010) by Gabriel Garzia Marquez
  - iv. "*When the Sun Goes Down*" (2010) by Goro wa Kamau
  - v. "*The Guilt*" (2010) by Rayda Jacobs
  - vi. "*Leaving*" by Moyez Vassanji

### QUESTION TWO

- a) How has Millicent Ojiambo addressed the issue of men's involvement in reproductive health in *One More Chance* (2012)? (7 marks)
- b) "Baraka was quiet for a long time. He loved his wife. God knows he did. Seeing her so shattered and vulnerable, he almost changed his mind. No. He had to go." Paying close attention to *One More Chance* (2012) by Millicent Ojiambo, discuss the character of Baraka. (8 marks)

### QUESTION THREE

- c) Explain the importance of oral literature. (4 marks)
- d) "*Blossoms of the Savannah* is a riveting account of two sisters who are both on the verge of womanhood and torn between their personal ambitions and the humiliating duty to the Nasila tradition." Discuss the portrayal of female characters in *Blossoms of the Savannah* (2011) by H. Ole Kulet. (11 marks)

### QUESTION FOUR

"*The Floods* is the study of the abuse of power by military dictatorships in contemporary Africa, and of the dehumanizing effect that this has on both the power-drunk agents of the state and those of the oppressed who escape total liquidation at the hands of the former." Discuss the treatment of the theme of poor political leadership in *The Floods* (1988) by John Ruganda. (15 marks)

### QUESTION SIX

- a) Examine how Chinua Achebe interrogates the themes of colonialism in *Things Fall Apart* (1958)? (8 marks)
- a) Drawing illustrations from *So Long a Letter* (1980) by Mariama Ba, discuss the success of the usage of epistle form in the text. (7 marks)



## KIBABII UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURE, JOURNALISM & MASS  
COMMUNICATION

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS) - 1 SEMESTER 2014/2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

Course Code: LIT 100

Course Outline: Introduction to Literary Studies

Lecturer: Zakayo Amayi

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### COURSE OUTLINE

**Broad Objective:** Learners should be able to demonstrate their understanding and be able to appreciate the Aesthetic features of Literature Genres – Prose Fiction (Novel & Short Story), Drama, Poetry and Oral Literature.

#### Course Objectives:

- i. Identify the genres, the raw materials and function(s) of literature;
- ii. Understand the meaning of literature and approaches to literary appreciation; and
- iii. Explain the relationship between literature and other disciplines (history, philosophy, sociology, religion and anthropology among others).

#### Expected Learning Outcome:

It is expected that at the end of the course, students should be able to:

- i. Demonstrate a solid understating of the meaning and functions of literature
- ii. Effectively appreciate the relationship between literature and other social sciences
- iii. Have a good mastery of the genres of literature
- iv. Explain the meaning and processes of appreciation of texts.

#### Course Contents:

##### Introduction

#### Week 1: Introduction to Literary Studies

- What is Literature?
- Meaning and functions of literature

#### Week 2: The Genres of Literature

- The genres of literature
- Characteristics of the genres
- The raw materials of literature

##### Literary Criticism

#### Week 3: Approaches to Appreciation of Texts

- Introduction to literary theory and criticism

- Qualities of a good literary critic

### The Novel

- Week 4:** Practical Analysis of *One More Chance* (2012) by Millicent Ojiambo  
**Week 5:** Practical Analysis of *Things Fall Apart* (1958) by Chinua Achebe  
**Week 6:** Practical Analysis of *So Long a Letter* (1980) and *Scarlet Song* (1981) by Mariama Ba  
**Week 7:** Practical Analysis of *The House of Doom* (2004) by Wahome Mutahi

### The Short Story

- Week 8:** Reading of ‘*The Metamorphosis*’ (1915) by Frank Kafka and “*Tuesday Siesta*” (2010) by Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
**Week 9:** Reading of “*When the Sun Goes Down*” by Goro wa Kamau, “*The Gull*” by Rayda Jacobs and “*Leaving*” by Moyez Vassanji in *When the Sun Goes Down and Other Stories from Africa and Beyond* (2010)

### Drama

- Week 10:** Reading of *The Floods* (1988) by John Ruganda.

### Poetry

- Week 11:** A Study of Okot p’Bitek’s *Song of Lawino* (1989)  
  - Themes and literary techniques

### Week 12: Revision

#### Mode of Delivery:

The course will be conducted through lectures, tutorials and interactive learning sessions.

#### Course Evaluation:

Continuous Assessment Test	15%
Term Paper	10%
Group Work	5%
Final Examinations	70%
Total Score	100%

#### Grading:

70% and Above	A
60% - 69%	B
50% - 59%	C
40% - 49%	D
Below 40%	E

#### Reading List:

1. Ojiambo, M. *One More Chance*. OUP: Nairobi, 2012
2. Achebe, C. *Things Fall Apart*. EAEP: Nairobi, 1958
3. Mutahi, W. *The House of Doom*. Africawide Network Publishers: Nairobi, 2004
4. Ba, M. *So Long A Letter*. Heinemann: 1980
5. Ba, M. *Scarlet Song*. Longman Publishers: USA: 1981
6. Ruganda, J. *The Floods*. EAEP: Nairobi, 1988
7. p’Bitek, O. *Song of Lawino and Song of Ocol*. EAEP: Nairobi, 1989
8. Ilieva, E. & Olembo, W. (Eds.). *When the Sun Goes Down and Other Stories*. Longhorn Publishers: Nairobi, 2010
9. Kafka, F. “*The Metamorphosis*” – E-book