



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya

Tel: +254(0) 799 529 958, +254(0) 799 529 959, + 254 (0) 712 524 293,

Website: info@must.ac.ke Email: info@must.ac.ke

University Examinations 2024/2025

FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

ELI 3401: AFRO-AMERICAN LITERATURE

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question **one** and any other **two** questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

(a) Briefly highlight three major concerns of Afro-American writers. (6 Marks)

(b) Highlight the role played by the following literary expression in African-American literature

- (i) Music (5 marks)
- (ii) Narratives (5 marks)

c) What is meant by Black Consciousness (4 marks)

d) List the major challenges faced by African-Americans in during the slave trade period (5 marks)

e) Explain four reasons as to why animal imagery was common in African-American oral tradition? (5 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

(a) Highlight four major characteristics of African-American literature during the period between 1800 and 1860. (8 marks)

(b) Drawing illustrations from the *Narrative of Fredrick Douglas*, elaborate:

(i) Three themes (6 marks)

(i) Three aspects of style (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

(a) Demonstrate the meaning of the term Harlem Renaissance. (3 marks)

(b) How was the American Civil War significant to African-American literature? (10 marks)

(c) Show how the African-American identity crisis contrasted with the values of white Americans? Illustrate using any two works covered in this course (7 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

(a) Discuss the effectiveness of any three stylistic aspects employed by Martin Luther King in his speech *I Have a Dream* (6 marks)

(b) Highlight four contributions of Malcom X in his pursuit of Black Power. (8 marks)

(c) Garveyism or 'Back to Africa' slogan by Marcus Garvey had positive impacts on African American life. Justify this statement by highlighting three issues raised. (6 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

(a) Using either 'Go Tell it on the Mountain' or *Blues for Mr. Charlie* by James Baldwin, explain four points to show the treatment of African American Christian Church. (8 marks)

(b) White Supremacy was the force behind the activities of the infamous Ku Klux Klan. Highlight five reasons in support of their activities (5 Marks)

(c) Briefly explain four major thematic concerns of the Harlem Renaissance poets using any two poems covered in this unit. (7 marks)