UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION: DECEMBER 2011

TITLE OF PAPER: INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE

COURSE CODE : AL 113 / IDE-AL 113

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS, CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION

2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A SEPARATE PAGE.

3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION HALL

4. IN THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.
SECTION A: ORIGIN AND GENERAL THEORY OF ORAL LITERATURE

1. Comment on the differences between the Swazi traditional society of yesterday and that of today. How has this affected the production of Swazi Oral Literature? (20 Marks).

2. (A) Define oral literature (5 marks)

(B) Discuss the important functions of Oral Literature in contemporary Swaziland (15 Marks).

3. Examine the relationship between composition, transmission and performance in Oral Literature (20 marks).

4. “Performance is integral to the whole concept of Oral Literature and presupposes the existence of a performer, audience and occasion.” Discuss this statement. (20 Marks)

SECTION B: FIELD WORK IN ORAL LITERATURE

5. Comment on the following features on the nature of transcript in Oral Literature:
   i. Transcription
   ii. Translation
   iii. Structural organization

6. “The modern Swazi oral artist remains rooted within his context commenting on present day happenings.” Discuss this statement (20 marks).

7. Discuss the differences between Methods and Techniques in the collection of Swazi oral literature during field trips (20 marks).

Good luck.