

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
INSTITUTE OF POST-GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION, OCTOBER, 2021

COURSE TITLE: GENDER AND SOCIETY IN AFRICA
COURSE CODE: HIS 638
TIME ALLOWED: THREE HOURS
INSTRUCTION: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

With specific examples from societies in Africa, discuss how culture shaped gender roles in Africa. **[25 Marks]**

QUESTION 2

Either:

Explain how Ifi Amadiume's presentation of "pre-colonial African women not being an undifferentiated, exploited and powerless group in need of feminist rescue" differs from Jeff Guy's presentation of Southern African pre-colonial women as "oppressed and exploited".

Or

With reference to pre-colonial and colonial periods, critically examine factors that promoted the subordination of African women. **[25 Marks]**

QUESTION 3

Explain the theory of intersectionality. Using this theory, critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of Hamilton Sipho Simelane's article titled: "The State, Chiefs and Control of Female Migration in Colonial Swaziland, 1930s-1950s", *Journal of African History*, 45, 1(March 2004) 103-124. **[25 Marks]**

QUESTION 4

Examine how Judith Carney and Michael Watts (1991), and Judith Carney (1993) present women's position and how women have positioned themselves in irrigation farming. **[25 Marks]**

QUESTION 5

Critically analyze the participation of women in nationalist and liberation movements in **any** country of your choice in Southern Africa. **[25 Marks]**

QUESTION 6

In South African gender research, the study of masculinity has recently become the central focus of research and writing. In your view how does this development contribute to the study of gender in Africa? **[25 Marks]**