University of Eswatini Faculty of Humanities & Institute of Distance Education Department of Theology & Religious Studies

2019/2020 Main Examination Paper (First Semester) Nov. /December 2019

Course code

: TRS 207

Course title

: Post-biblical Judaism

Duration

: 2 (Two) Hours

Instructions

a. Answer three questions.

b. Your answer to each question must be structured and consistently focused on the subject matter at hand.

c. Indicate on the front cover of your answer script the name of your programme of study.

NB: All questions are worth 20 marks.

DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO.

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Question 1

Demonstrate the plausibility of the common scholarly and Judaic observation that Judaism is simultaneously a religion, culture and civilisation with reference to specific elements thereof.

Question 2

Comment on the variations within messianic beliefs held by observant Jews.

Question 3

Discuss the theological tenets developed and articulated by Maimonides about God as enshrined in the Thirteen Principles of Faith.

Question 4

Demonstrate the importance of a feminist voice within Jewish theology with reference to the works of Rachel Adler.

Question 5

Explain the theological significance of rituals in Jewish piety with reference to at least five of the festivals in the religious calendar.

Question 6

Give a reflective response to Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks' idea of the *Dignity of difference* as a proposal on the future of Judaism.