

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

# UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FIRST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE  
OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)

HIST 312: AFRICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY

**STREAM:** *BED ARTS*

**TIME:** *2 HRS*

**DAY:** *FRIDAY [8.30 A.M-10.30 A.M]*

**DATE:** *6/02/2026*

**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF TWO (2) PAGES**

**PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer question ONE and any other two.

**QUESTION ONE**

- a) Explain the key features of the pre-colonial African economy, showing how subsistence systems supported community livelihoods. **(10 marks)**
- b) Analyze the organization of long-distance trade networks in pre-colonial Africa and discuss their economic importance. **(10 marks)**
- c) Assess the impact of the scramble and partition of Africa on indigenous economic systems by 1900. **(10 marks)**

**QUESTION TWO**

- a) Discuss the effects of colonial labour policies on African societies between 1900 and 1945. **(10 marks)**
- b) Examine the major forms of African resistance to colonial economic exploitation. **(10 marks)**

**QUESTION THREE**

- a) Evaluate the role of colonial infrastructure, such as railways and ports, in restructuring African economies. **(10 marks)**
- b) Explain how taxation was used to compel African participation in the colonial economy. **(10 marks)**

**QUESTION FOUR**

- a) Analyze the role of African entrepreneurship in the colonial era and its contribution to economic transformation. **(10 marks)**
- b) Discuss the limitations imposed by colonial governments on African-owned businesses. **(10 marks)**

**QUESTION FIVE**

- a) Assess the economic challenges African states faced in the early post-independence period (1960s–1970s). **(10 marks)**
- b) Explain the major features and impacts of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) in Africa. **(10 marks)**