



# UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS**

**LITT 311: AFRICAN DRAMA**

***STREAM: R***

***TIME: 2 HRS***

***DAY: THURSDAY (11.30-13.30PM)***

***DATE: 14/12/23***

**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES**

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

## INSTRUCTIONS

Answer **THREE** questions in total. Question **ONE** is compulsory  
Do not write on the question paper

### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Using at least two texts for illustrations, discuss the significance of the following features of African drama :
- b) Masks
    - ii. Ritual
    - iii. Song and dance
    - iv. Poof symbolism
    - v. The drum language
- (15 marks)

b) Explain how African oral traditions influence African drama in English. Use relevant examples from drama works studied in the course. (15 marks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Evaluate the portrayal of race relations in Athol Fugard’s *Blood Knot*. (20 marks)

### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

“African drama can be described as a **hybrid** form that combined elements of European drama and elements of indigenous African literary traditions.” Discuss this statement with examples from plays studied in this course. (20 marks)

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

“The development of African drama has been shaped by the different social, cultural, economic and political forces that have shaped the history of the continent.” Using at least two plays from different regions, illustrate with five examples how the playwrights have been influenced by the contexts in which they wrote. (20 marks)



**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

Referring to Sophocles' King Oedipus and Ola Rotimi's The Gods Are Blame review the relationship between any one (screen)play its source text, paying attention to the ways in which the former seeks to illustrate or the latter transcribe. (20 marks)

