

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF  
ARTS IN HISTORY**

**HIST 815: TOPICAL STUDENTS IN HISTORY I**

***STREAM:***

***TIME: 3 HRS***

***DAY: WEDNESDAY [8.30 A.M-11.30 A.M]***

***DATE: 04/02/2026***

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

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

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer FOUR questions.

**QUESTION ONE**

Critically assess the social, economic and political dynamics that defined the history of Europe between 1650 and 1789. **(15 marks)**

**QUESTION TWO**

“Economic factors were responsible for the French Revolution than all the other causes combined”  
Discuss **(15 marks)**

**QUESTION THREE**

“The American Revolution gave us Washington, but France got in Napoleon a man who was Washington, Jefferson and Madison rolled into one” Discuss this statement in respect to the life and times of Napoleon Bonaparte. **(15 marks)**

**QUESTION FOUR**

**EITHER**

a) Why is the Congress of Vienna viewed as a triumph for absolutism in Europe to 1848? **(15 marks)**

**OR**

b) Examine the role of Klemens von Metternich in shaping the history of Europe from 1815 to 1851. **(15 marks)**

**QUESTION FIVE**

Who was the “sick man of Europe”? How was his fate to 1914 determined? **(15 marks)**

**QUESTION SIX**

Make notes on any ONE of the following: **(15 marks)**

- i) Otto von Bismarck and the making of a unified Germany
- ii) The role of Mazzini and Garibaldi in the triumph of nationalism in Italy.
- iii) The Causes of World War I
- iv) The Russian Revolution