

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FIRST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

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

HIS 212: PRINCIPLES OF ARCHAEOLOGY

STREAM: BED ARTS

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: FRIDAY [11.30 P.M-13.30 P.M]

DATE: 30/01/2026

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) Discuss the scope of archaeology and show how it helps us understand past human societies. **(10 marks)**
- (b) Explain the major phases in the growth of archaeology from early antiquarian practices to modern scientific approaches. **(10 marks)**
- (c) Describe the main ethical responsibilities that guide archaeologists when working with sites, artifacts, and communities. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Describe the different types of archaeological sites and explain what each reveals about human activities. **(10 marks)**
- (b) Discuss the principles archaeologists use to identify, classify, and interpret artifacts during research. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Explain the major techniques used in archaeological surveys and their importance in locating sites. **(10 marks)**
- (b) Describe the major challenges associated with the use of modern technologies in archaeological investigations. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Discuss the concept of stratigraphy and show how archaeologists use it to interpret cultural and chronological sequences. **(10 marks)**
- (b) Compare the main relative dating and absolute dating methods used in archaeology, showing the strengths and weaknesses of each. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) Examine how archaeological discoveries have helped scholars understand human evolution and early cultural development. **(10 marks)**
- (b) Discuss how modern technological tools such as photogrammetry and digital recording have transformed archaeological documentation and analysis. **(10 marks)**