

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FIRST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

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

HIST 411: AFRICAN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

STREAM: BED ARTS

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: TUESDAY [14.30 P.M-16.30 P.M] DATE: 27/01/2026

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) “Environmental History is an interdisciplinary field of study”. Discuss the validity of this statement while giving relevant examples **(12 marks)**
- b) Highlight and briefly explain three branches of Environmental History as identified by Donald Worster **(6 marks)**
- c) Examine the significance of studying African Environmental history. **(12 marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Explain two approaches used in the study of African Environmental history. **(4 marks)**
- (b) Critically examine the contribution of European colonization to environmental change and degradation in Africa. **(14 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

Discuss the contributions of the following scholars to the rise of African environmental history as a discipline of study:

- (a) John Ford **(8 marks)**
- (b) Helge Kjekshus **(8 marks)**
- (c) John Illife **(4 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) “African Environment was key in shaping the life of African precolonial societies”. Discuss. **(10 marks)**
- b) “The years of 1890s were years of great ecological stress to Africans”. With relevant examples, examine the validity of this observation. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

Discuss the environmental challenges that continue to confront the African continent. **(20 marks)**