



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SECOND SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

**FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCE**

ENSC 121: INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

STREAM: R

TIME: 2 HRS

DAY: TUESDAY [8.30A.M – 10.30A.M]

DATE: 16/04/2024

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTIONS ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- i) Define the following terms as used in physical environment;
 - a. Asthenosphere **(2 Marks)**
 - b. Divergent plate boundaries **(2 Marks)**
 - c. Subduction **(2 Marks)**
- ii) List **TWO** major properties of minerals **(2 Marks)**
- iii) Briefly explain **TWO** differences between stalactites and stalagmites in Karst formations **(4 Marks)**
- iv) Using a diagram, briefly describe the rock cycle **(4 Marks)**
- v) Describe any **THREE** roles of living organisms in weathering and soil formation **(3 Marks)**
- vi) By use of a diagram, briefly discuss the earth's internal structure composition **(5 Marks)**
- vii) Briefly describe the formation of igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks and metamorphic rocks **(6 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- i. Identify and describe the potential impacts of emerging micro plastic pollution on human health and the environment.
- ii. Give potential management strategies to the (i) above

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Describe the main components of the Earth's climate system and how they interact.

(20 Marks)



QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Giving examples, explain how atmospheric circulation patterns influences global climate and weather systems **(20 Marks)**

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Explain the process of seafloor spreading and how it contributes to plate tectonics **(20 Marks)**

