



**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**MAIN EXAMINATIONS  
MAIN CAMPUS**

**FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**FOR THE DEGREE  
OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**COURSE CODE: SBT 422**

**COURSE TITLE: MICROBIAL METABOLITES**

**DATE: THURSDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023**

**TIME: 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

TIME: 2 Hours

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

SBT 422: MICROBIAL METABOLITES

**SECTION A: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS [40 MARKS]**

1. With specific examples, explain how a bacterium uses an electrochemical gradient to generate ATP. [5 Marks]
2. Define bioprocess as used in the production of Ampicillin and describe three downstream processes used in the purification of the Ampicillin antibiotic at the industrial scale. [5 Marks]
3. State the importance of metabolic regulation [5 Marks]
4. Differentiate between primary and secondary microbial metabolites. [5 Marks]
5. Highlight five pathways utilized by microorganisms in acquiring energy.[5 Marks]
6. Explain why secondary metabolites are not useful to microorganisms during growth.
7. Highlight five points to consider in secondary screening of an industrially important microorganism. [5 Marks]
8. Describe two methods of producing recombinant therapeutic proteins. [5 Marks]

**SECTION B: ESSAY QUESTIONS [30 MARKS]**

9. Describe the methods used to improve the metabolic capacities of microorganism for biotechnological applications. [15 Marks]
10. Studying the biosynthetic pathways in microbial metabolism has become very necessary in biopharmaceutical processes. Justify the statement. [15 Marks]
11. Elucidate the steps of downstream processing of a microbial metabolite. [15 Marks]