



(University Of Choice)

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

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**MAIN EXAM**

**FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**FOR THE DEGREE  
OF MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGION**

**COURSE CODE: REL 802**

**COURSE TITLE: THEORIES OF RELIGION**

**DATE: 15/12/2023**

**TIME: 08:00 – 11:00AM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**MMUST OBSERVES ZERO TOLERANCE TO EXAMINATION  
CHEATING**

1a) What is the meaning of the term “theory” in light of the lectures and readings in this course? (10 Marks)

b) State why a theory is important in a socio-scientific research in light of the lectures and readings in this course. (10 Marks)

2) In his theorizing on religion, Emile Durkheim distinguished between the “sacred” and the “profane.” Critically Discuss. (20 Marks)

3) Outline the arguments of the Psychological Theory of Religion as propounded by Sigmund Freud and critically respond to this theory. (20 Marks)

4) What are the major tenets of the theories of religion in the primitive period? (20 Marks)

5) Critically examine the five primary notions/views of what religion is. (20 Marks)

6) Give a comprehensive overview of the trends in the history of religion to the modern period. (20 Marks)