

JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR SCIENCE IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

3rd YEAR 2nd SEMESTER 2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

MAIN CAMPUS - REGULAR

COURSE CODE: SBI 3324

COURSE TITLE: HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF BIOLOGY

EXAM VENUE: BIO LAB STREAM (BIO)

DATE: 26/04/2019 EXAM SESSION: 3.00-5.00PM

TIME: 2 HOURS

Instructions:

- 1. Answer ALL questions in Section A and Any two questions in Section B
- 2. Candidates are advised not to write on question paper
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room

SECTION A: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (30 MARKS)

- 1. Explain the term scientific methods and outline its importance in biology. (3 marks)
- 2. Outline three pieces of evidence showing that Arab natural philosophers merely transmitted knowledge from the ancient Greeks to the western world. (3 marks)
- 3. Explain how Andreas Vesalius (1514- 1564) used art to transform the study of anatomy.

(3 marks)

- 4. Describe the problematic approach to studying the history of biology. (3 marks)
- 5. Give a brief account of ancient Egyptian medical practices recorded in the Edwin-Smith papyrus. (3 marks)
- 6. Write short notes on:

(3 marks)

- a. Natural theology
- b. Spontaneous generation
- c. Noumena
- 7. Describe how cell biology incorporates ways in which the ideas of matter, energy and organization into distinctive concepts in biology. (3 marks)
- 8. Give a brief account of the liberating influence of travel and voyages in the growth of renaissance biology. (3 marks)
- 9. Outline John Ray (1627-1705) contribution to zoological taxonomy. (3 marks)
- 10. Outline three factors that transformed the intellectual environment during enlightenment era. (3 marks)

SECTION B: ESSAY QUESTIONS (40 MARKS)

11.

- a. Give an account of Ernst Haeckel's biogenetic law epitomized in the phrase "ontology recapitulates phylogeny"). (10 marks)
- b. Explain the influence of *naturphilosophie* on the biogenetic law. (10 marks)
- 12. Discuss how the work of the following non-biologists contributed to the growth of biology:
 - a. Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) (5 marks)
 - b. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543). (5 marks)
 - c. Tycho Brahe (1546-1601) (5 marks)
 - d. Isaac Newton (1642-1727) (5 marks)

- 13. The fact that a scientific idea is radical and mathematical (mechanistic) does not always mean it is the true. Explain this statement with reference to Rene Descartes' works in biology.
 (20 marks)
- 14. Discuss the contribution of Alexandrian era library and museum in the growth of biology. (20 marks)