



PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

MAY – AUGUST 2017

CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU

DEPARTMENT: BIBLE AND THEOLOGY

COURSE CODE: MPC500

COURSE TITLE: EARLY CHURCH HISTORY

EXAM DATE: THURSDAY 27th JULY 2017

TIME: 5.30PM-8.30PM

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read the instructions and questions carefully before you write the answers.
- Write your **STUDENT NUMBER** in the Answer Booklet given
- Answer the questions as per the instructions given in each section

Section One – Compulsory Questions

Answer all **TWO** questions [15 marks each]

1. Discuss the influence of the Greco-Roman culture and the role of the dispersion (the Jewish diaspora) in the spread of Christianity
2. Hellenism had both positive and negative repercussions. Discuss the negative aspects of Hellenism during the formation of the early Christian church, and the lessons the church in Kenya can learn from that.

Section Two [Elective Questions]

Answer any **THREE** questions [10 marks each]

1. In the history of the church, false teachings or heresies arose including Marcionism (which took away from the Word), Montanism (which added to the Word), and Arianism (which reduced Jesus to a superhero rather than a member of the triune God). What are the heresies similar to those in the early church that you are aware of today? What are the best tools that the Church should utilise to safeguard the gospel against heretics?
2. What caused the fall of the mighty Roman Empire? How would you relate the causes for the fall of the Roman Empire to the present African twin context of ecclesial and socio-political realities?
3. What were the causes of the fall of Rome upon Christianity? Considering the effects of the fall of Rome to the church, in which way the fall of an autocratic administration could impact positively or negatively on the African church today?
4. What would motivate people during the Roman Empire to leave their homes, friends, and activities to become monks and nuns? Do you think this was the best approach to fight evil and worldliness? How would you relate this practice to the socio-political context of Africa?

5. There are views that the medieval crusades were acts of terrorism by the church. Briefly discuss this, and indicate whether you share the same views or not.