

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
PHILOSOPHY AND BACHELOR OF ARTS IN RELIGION STUDIES**

PHIL 232: INTRODUCTION TO HERMENEUTICS

STREAMS:

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: THURSDAY 13/04/2023

8.30 A.M. –10.30 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer question ONE and any TWO

1. a) What is the meaning of “hermeneutics”? (5 marks)
- b) Explain in details the origin of hermeneutics (10 marks)
- c) Can hermeneutics be objective? Why or why not and what are your reasons? (15 marks)
2. Distinguish between “translation” and “interpretation” in the context of hermeneutics clearly showing the objective of each and essential features (20 marks)
3. Explain the claim that truth or meaning go beyond language or meaning of words (20 marks)
4. a) Define and briefly explain the following terms as used in Hans-Georg Gadamer’s hermeneutics.
 - i. Prejudice (5 marks)
 - ii. Tradition (5 marks)
 - iii. Horizon (5 marks)
 - iv. Authority (5 marks)
- b) Do you agree with Gadamer that prejudice is an element of our understanding and is not per se without value? (10 marks)

5. According to Friedrich Schleiermacher, hermeneutics is concerned with the art of understanding the meaning of disclosure, and the art of avoiding misinterpretation of the meaning of disclosure. Explain (20 marks)
