

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER MAY, 2016**

**COURSE TITLE: ECONOMIC HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA SINCE 1900**

**COURSE CODE: H316/IDE H316**

**TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS**

**ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

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THE INVIGILATOR**

**Question 1**

Explain how changes in the European economy in the 19<sup>th</sup> century led to the partition and eventual colonization of West Africa. [25 marks]

**Question 2**

Discuss the main economic objectives for European colonization of West Africa at the turn of the twentieth century. How are these objectives linked to the open economy that was established in West Africa especially during the first twenty years of colonial rule? [25 marks]

**Question 3**

In terms of colonial land policy, “the West African peasant and not the European planter was to be the basis for the exploitation of the West African economy.” To what extent do you agree with Michael Crowder’s explanation for the absence of white settler plantations in colonial West Africa? [25 marks]

**Question 4**

Why was it possible for European private capital to exercise what historians described as “a virtual monopoly over the marketing sector of the colonial economy”? [25 marks]

**Question 5**

Discuss the obstacles that disrupted independent West Africa’s efforts towards sustainable economic growth between 1960 and the 1980s. [25 marks]