

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION PAPER DECEMBER, 2017

TITLE OF PAPER : ECONOMIC HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA TO 1900

COURSE CODE : HIS315/ IDE H315

DURATION : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER ONLY TWO QUESTIONS

: ALL QUESTIONS CARRY [25] MARKS

: NUMBER ALL YOUR QUESTIONS

**PLEASE INDICATE THE PROGRAMME YOU ARE DOING
ON THE OUTER COVER OF YOUR ANSWER SHEET**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR
HAS GRANTED PERMISSION**

QUESTION ONE

Critically examine the different theories used to explain the origin of agriculture in West Africa.

QUESTION TWO

Do you subscribe to the view that although West African agricultural production was intended for subsistence purposes, the development of trade in agricultural products was inevitable? Explain your answer using evidence from authorities in this subject.

QUESTION THREE

With reference to the Trans-Saharan trade and the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade, critically assess the contribution of external trade to West Africa's economic growth.

QUESTION FOUR

How plausible is the view that the British decided to abolish the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade because "it had become more profitable to seek in West Africa raw materials and markets rather than slaves"? Support your answer using evidence from authorities in this subject.

QUESTION FIVE

Using specific examples, explain how legitimate commerce paved the way for the colonization of West Africa at the end of the 19th century.