

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND PLANNING**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2013**  
**B.A., BASS, B. Ed. (FT/PT)**

**TITLE OF PAPER: BIOGEOGRAPHY**

**COURSE NUMBER: GEP 312**

**TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS**
- 2. QUESTION 1 IS COMPULSORY**
- 3. ILLUSTRATE YOUR ANSWERS WITH EXAMPLES AND CLEARLY DRAWN DIAGRAMS WHERE APPROPRIATE**

**ALLOCATION OF MARKS: QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY) CARRIES 40 MARKS WHILE THE REST CARRY 30 MARKS EACH**

**THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

**GEP 312: BIOGEOGRAPHY – DECEMBER 2013**

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

**QUESTION 1**

- a) Explain why the Lowveld region of Swaziland does not favour the development of forest plantations. (30 marks)
- b) Logically explain how you will estimate intensity of invasion of *Chromoleana odorata* on Mdzimba Mountain. (10 marks)  
**(40 Marks)**

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 2**

- a) Discuss the factors that influence horizontal stratification of plants. (20 marks)
- b) Describe the vertical stratification of plants. (10 marks)  
**(30 Marks)**

**QUESTION 3**

Using examples, discuss the role played by culture in modifying the biogeography of plants, animals and other organisms. **(30 Marks)**

**QUESTION 4**

Explain how information about ecological factors that influence geographical distribution patterns of individual and populations of communities may be applied in management of the environment. **(30 Marks)**

**QUESTION 5**

Discuss the factors influencing the composition of the climax community. **(30 Marks)**