



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, ABUJA

**Faculty of Arts
Department of Languages
2023_2 EXAMINATIONS**

COURSE CODE: ENG415:

COURSE TITLE: LITERARY THEORY AND CRITICISM

CREDIT UNIT: 3

TIME: 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS each question carries equal marks (17^{1/2} marks).

1. With appropriate illustrations, discuss the following:
 - a) Nature and Meaning of Literary Criticism
 - b) Relationship between literary theory and literary criticism
 - c) Functions of Literary Criticism
2. "What is central to all the diverse inflections of Russian Formalism and Anglo-American New Criticism is a profound, almost reverential regards for literary works themselves." Attempt a critical exposition of this statement, paying attention to the the origins and basic principles/main interpretative strategies of both literary theories.
3. With copious details and textual illustrations, critically discuss the emergence and major postulations of Post-Structuralism.
4. Write a critical and well-exemplified essay on: the theoretical postulations of Marxism, its shortcomings as a theoretical construct, and Karl Marx's influence on it.
5. With adequate illustrations, discuss the fundamental tenets and shortcomings of Biographical Criticism.