



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

**FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN LINGUISTICS
(MAIN CAMPUS)**

ALN 807: SEMANTICS AND SEMIOTICS

Date: 8th April, 2014

Time: 9.00 - 12noon

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer QUESTION ONE and ANY OTHER TWO questions.



INSTRUCTIONS:

There are **FIVE** questions in this paper

Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions

1. With appropriate illustrations, show the strengths and weaknesses of any **FIVE** theories of semantics (30 marks)
2. Discuss the differences between Ferdinand de Saussure's and Charles Peirce Sanders conceptualization of Semiotics (15 marks)
3. With the aid of suitable examples, explain the following semantic concepts
 - (i) Hyponyms (5 marks)
 - (ii) Antonyms (5 marks)
 - (iii) Synonyms (5 marks)
4. Describe the tenets of Behavioral Theory of Semiotics as advanced by Charles Morris (15 marks)
5. Using examples, explain the meaning of the following concepts as advanced by Austin's speech acts theory
 - (i) Felicity conditions (5 marks)
 - (ii) Illocutionary, locutionary and perlocutionary acts (5 marks)
 - (iii) Directives, Commissives and Expressives (5 marks)