



MASEÑO UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014

**FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN LITERATURE**

(MAIN CAMPUS)

ALI 815: NEW WRITING (SCIENCE FICTION)

Date: 26th November, 2013,

Time: 9.00 - 12.00 noon

INSTRUCTIONS:

- **Answer ANY THREE questions.**
- **Avoid unnecessary duplication of material in answer to more than one question.**
- **Do not write any rough work on the question paper.**

1. Discuss the interplay between culture, nature and technology in the Science Fiction you have studied in this course. [20 Marks]

2. To what extent would you argue that the contemporary society is pursuing dystopia, identity and stability like they are presented in **Brave New World** by Aldous Huxley? [20 Marks]

3. **Either (a)**
How does religious faith help frame the Lackses response to and interpretation of the scientific information they receive about HeLa [20 Marks]

- Or (b)**
To what extent is **The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** by R. Skloot a work of fact or fiction? [20 Marks]

4. “What is it about nature that is so terrifying to the modern mind? Why is it so intolerable? Because nature is fundamentally indifferent. It’s unforgiving, uninterested. If you live or die, succeed or fail, feel pleasure or pain, it does not care. That is intolerable to us” **Micro** by C. Crichton, pg 136. Discuss how the author above has responded aesthetically to these questions. [20 Marks]

5. “A **Heartbeat Away** is a mixture of aesthetics, ethics and medicine”. Discuss how M. Palmer balances the three elements in the novel. [20 Marks]