

**MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

**COURSE CODE: WLM 240**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO ECOLOGY**

**DATE: 4TH JULY, 2017 TIME: 1100 – 1300HRS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **ALL** questions in section **A** and any other **THREE** in section **B.**

*This paper consists of 2 printed pages. Please turn over.*

**SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS (25 marks)**

1. Define the following terms **(5 marks)**
2. Ecology
3. Synecology
4. Bio-geochemical
5. Seral Community
6. Population
7. Explain levels of organization in ecology **(5 marks)**
8. Briefly explain the trophic level in ecology **(5 marks)**
9. Differentiate between the following terms as used in Ecology **(5 marks)**
10. Keystone species and flagship species
11. Explain factors limiting population size **(5marks)**

**SECTION B: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS ONLY (45 marks)**

1. Using examples where necessary, discuss the Nitrogen cycle **(15marks)**
2. Discuss the characteristics of an ecological population **(15 marks)**
3. Discuss how some species in the ecosystem are ecological indicators

     **(15 marks)**

1. Using examples discuss how ecological succession for plants and animals takes place in an ecosystem **(15 marks)**

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