

**UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU- NATAL
DURBAN CENTRE: WESTVILLE CAMPUS
EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 2011**

SCHOOL : ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
LEVEL : HONOURS
MODULE : CONTEMPORARY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
CODE : ENVS751 W2H2
DURATION : 3 HOURS **TOTAL MARKS : 300**

INTERNAL EXAMINERS: Dr J. Finch; Prof. U. Bob
EXTERNAL EXAMINER: Prof S. Grab

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer THREE questions: ONE from Section A, ONE from Section B AND ONE additional from Section A OR B. Answer each section in a separate answer book.

SECTION A

- 1 Discuss social and health issues associated with industrial pollution using the South Durban Basin as a case study to illustrate your answer. (100)

- 2 Anthropogenic climate change is likely to exacerbate existing environmental and socio-economic issues, particularly in the African context. Discuss whether you agree with the view or not by providing reference to examples. (100)

- 3 **EITHER**
 - a) Critically respond to the argument that nuclear power is a “well disguised fossil fuel” and should not be considered as a means to power our society as we strive towards a sustainable energy future. (100)

 - OR**

 - b) Discuss hydraulic fracturing and assess whether this energy source should be considered in the South African context. (100)

SECTION B

- 4 **EITHER**
a) Discuss the importance of integrating environmental ethical considerations in environmental management practices. Support your answer with appropriate examples. (100)
- OR**
- b) Critically examine different approaches to environmentalism. Highlight the importance of examining environmental discourses in relation to the social construction of nature. (100)
- 5 Using specific examples of waste types, critically assess South Africa's waste management policies and practices. (100)
- 6 Discuss energy poverty in the African context and prospects for alternative energy sources. (100)