

UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU- NATAL
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL, EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
DISCIPLINE OF GEOGRAPHY
EXAMINATION: NOVEMBER 2014
MODULE NAME & CODE: SUSTAINABLE CITIES GEOG330H2

DURATION : 3 HOURS

TOTAL MARKS: 300

INTERNAL EXAMINER: PROF B MAHARAJ

EXTERNAL EXAMINER: PROF S OLDFIELD, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS.
ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

1. There is a view that cities in the South challenge prevailing theories of urbanisation. Do you agree with this view? Critically assess the different theoretical interpretations of urbanisation in the developing world. (100)
2. Migration to cities is often a product of both the pull of perceived opportunities and services in the metropolis and the push of rural challenges. Critically analyse this statement, referring to examples, and comment on the gender dimensions of migration. (100)
3. Physical infrastructure, landuse-planning and the size of poor settlements are the biggest factors determining the impact of disasters (which are increasing in frequency and intensity) on cities. Many of the most vulnerable urban populations settle in the more disaster-prone areas where no one else wants to live. Critically assess this statement with reference to the impact of disasters on Southern cities, supporting your answer with examples. (100)
4. The struggle to survive under harsh conditions can take many forms including mobilisation, collective negotiation, litigation, and protest. Critically assess this statement with reference to the potential for the poor to engage in revolutionary activities in cities, referring to examples. (100)
5. Providing affordable housing and tackling the living conditions of the urban poor is always going to be difficult. Critically assess how the poor respond to urban housing challenges, with reference to examples. Comment on the effectiveness of government interventions. (100)
6. Do you agree with the view that while both government and private sectors view the informal sector negatively, it provides the most immediate opportunity for the poor to survive in the city, and sometimes to escape from poverty? Discuss with reference to examples. (100)