



# **MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR  
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF TOURISM AND NATURAL  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
DIPLOMA IN TOURISM AND WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT**

**COURSE CODE: NDTW 113**

**COURSE TITLE: NATURAL HISTORY OF BIRDS**

**DATE: 29. 4. 2019**

**TIME: 11.00AM – 1.00PM**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer question **ONE** and any other **THREE** questions

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

**SECTION A: QUESTION ONE IS COMPULSORY (25Mks)**

**QUESTION ONE**

a. Define the following terms as used in the study of natural history of birds  
(5Mks)

(i) Poikilotherm

(ii) Sexual dimorphism

(iii) Ornithology

(iv) Taxonomy

(v) Evolution

b. Outline distinctive characteristics of *Archaeopteryx lithographica* (5Mks)

c. Discuss the adaptations of bird to escape predation (5Mks)

d. Describe how birds find their route during migration (5Mks)

e. Giving examples, describe the criteria under which birds are named (5Mks)

**ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS (45Mks)**

**QUESTION TWO**

Discuss characteristics which distinguish birds from other mammals (15Mks)

**QUESTION THREE**

With sufficient details, elaborate factors affecting distribution of birds in Africa (15Mks)

**QUESTION FOUR**

Discuss cues and evolutionary factors that affect timing of bird's migration (15Mks)

**QUESTION FIVE**

Discuss features used in the Identification of birds in the field (15Mks)

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