



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE PLANNING

EPH 1201

Final Examination Paper

April 2025

This examination paper consists of 2 pages

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Total Marks: 100

Special Requirements: None

Examiner's Name: Dr E. Mudefi

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer **QUESTION 1** and any **other Three** questions
2. Question 1 carries 40 marks and questions 2 to 6 carry 20 marks each.

MARK ALLOCATION

| QUESTION | MARKS |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. | 40 |
| 2. | 20 |
| 3. | 20 |
| 4. | 20 |
| 5. | 20 |
| 6. | 20 |
| TOTAL | 100 |

QUESTION ONE (Compulsory)

Cyclone Idai was one of the worst tropical cyclones to hit Southern Africa in recorded history in 2019. In Zimbabwe, the cyclone caused severe flooding and landslides, particularly in Chimanimani and Chipinge. Over 340 people died, and thousands were displaced. Infrastructure, including roads and bridges, was extensively damaged (Sifelani et al., 2022).

Critically analyse the key failures in environmental preparedness and response planning in this scenario. Propose a multi-tiered strategy to enhance resilience, considering governance, community engagement, environmental impact mitigation, and long-term adaptation.

[40 Marks]

QUESTION TWO

Critically assess the effectiveness of international and national legal frameworks governing disaster response in Zimbabwe.

[20 Marks]

QUESTION THREE

Discuss the psychological and sociological factors that influence public risk perception in environmental disaster preparedness

[20 Marks]

QUESTION FOUR

The natural science perspective provides a more accurate explanation of disasters compared to the social science perspective. Discuss.

[20 Marks]

QUESTION FIVE

Examine the variability of vulnerability across different communities and disasters

[20 Marks]

QUESTION SIX

Critically analyze how climate change both complicates and enhances disaster response and preparedness.

[20 Marks]