MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2017 First Year Second Semester ENGLISH English Literature 1760-1830

Time: Two hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer three questions choosing at least one from each group. All questions carry equal marks.

Group A

- 1. Discuss either Cowper's portrayal of personal affliction or Crabbe's presentation of rural sordidness. Illustrate with references to the texts you have read.
- 2. Examine how the study of the material cultures of print in the nineteenth century undercuts the dominant discourse of social respectability.
- 3. Analyse Coleridge's use of the Gothic and the supernatural in *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* and *Christabel*.
- 4. Critically consider how a contemporary reading of William Jones as the 'British Brahma' in 'The Hymn to Narayena' complicates Jones's self-inscription in relation to both Narayena and the Judaeo-Christian God to whom he offers allegiance in the last stanza of the poem.
- 5. Examine the theme of discovery, loss and hoped for recovery of the Imagination as it is dramatically conceived in Book I of *The Prelude*.
- 6. Comment on the Romantic transformation of the epic in Byron's *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* Cantos 1 and 2.

Group B

- 7. Critically comment on the themes of play and reality in the Essays of Elia.
- 8. Which texts are considered the antecedents to the main narrative of *The Monk*? How does Lewis absorb and transform them?
- 9. How does Scott's Waverley 'invent a new Highland reality' along with the 'construction and colonization of a Highland past' to go with it? Answer with reference to the works you have read.
- 10. Austen's *Mansfield Park* 'steadily, if unobtrusively, opens up a broad expanse of domestic imperial culture without which Britain's subsequent acquisition of territory would not have been possible'. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.