



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA

Plot 91, Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikiwe Expressway, Jabi - Abuja

Faculty of Science

Department of Pure and Applied Science

2023_2 EXAMINATIONS

COURSE CODE: BIO 304 (2 CREDIT UNITS) **TIME ALLOWED:** 2HOURS

COURSE TITLE: GENERAL ECOLOGY

INSTRUCTION: Answer question ONE (1) and any other THREE (3) Questions only

- 1a Define the term ecosystem
- 1b What are the fundamental steps in the operation of the ecosystem
- 1c List the major organism groups in an aquatic ecosystem
- 1d Describe the process of Water cycle in the atmosphere

- 2 Differentiate between a Habitat and a Niche of an ecosystem

- 3 Explain the various characteristic features of a population

- 4a Briefly explain each of the following concepts:
 - i Primary productivity
 - ii Gross primary productivity
 - iii Net primary productivity
 - iv Ammonification
 - v Uptake of Nitrogen by plants.

- 4b what is the significance of primary productivity?

- 5 Describe the process of nutrient cycling within an ecosystem.