



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2014/2015

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PUBLIC
POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION**

AMC 800: SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: Monday 8th December 2014

TIME: 5.30p.m -8.30p.m

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question ONE (Compulsory) and any other two questions.

1. Assume you are employed as a researcher in your county and your first assignment was to investigate the scarcity of jobs in the region. With this position in mind, develop a proposal on the thematic area. Ensure that the following sub-themes are included:
 - a) A suitable title for the proposal. [1mark]
 - b) Statement of the problem. [3marks]
 - c) Three (3) objectives of the study. [3marks]
 - d) Three (3) research questions. [3marks]
 - e) A conceptual framework. [3marks]
 - f) Two (2) research designs. [3marks]
 - g) Sampling procedure. [2marks]
 - h) Three (3) research instruments. [3marks]
 - i) Data analysis. [2marks]

2. A mathematics lecturer in a local university gave a CAT to male and female students. That CAT was marked out of 40 and results are shown in tables 1 & 2.

Table 1: Girls' performance in mathematics

24	13	27	24	24	20	02
02	20	27	24	20	14	13
23	23	23	11	30	14	20
23	22	22	22	28	18	22
18	24	24	24	22	12	24
24	15	22	11	02	14	02

Table 2: Boys' performance in mathematics

20	24	14	16	22	30	27	02
20	24	13	16	21	30	27	02
20	22	13	15	22	30	14	02
20	10	14	21	23	27	02	02

- i) Work out separately the percentages of female and male student who got
 - (a) Less than 20 marks and
 - b) 20 marks and above. [4marks]
 - ii) Present the data in Table 1 and 2 in frequency distribution tables. [4marks]
 - iii) Interpret the findings in table 1 and 2. [5marks]
 - iv) What recommendations can you offer given the performance of students in tables 1 and 2? [5marks]
3. a) Define the term proposal [2marks]
- b) Why is a proposal important to a researcher? [6marks]
- c) What are the challenges faced by researchers in writing proposals? [11marks]

4. a) Differentiate between the following:

i) Independent variable and dependent variables. [4marks]

ii) Probability sampling and Non-probability sampling. [4marks]

iii) Quota sampling and convenience sampling. [4marks]

b) With relevant examples, show how research differs with other methods of acquiring information. [7marks]

5. a) What do you understand by ethical issues in research? [4marks]

b) Why is a section on ethical issues important in a study? [4marks]

c) What ethical issues would you consider if you were to carry out a research on hospitalized children in one of the countries? Use relevant examples to support your answer. [11marks]