



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2010/2011
FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE
OF MASTER OF EDUCATION

EFN/M/517: EPISTEMOLOGY AND EDUCATION

DATE: Wednesday 24th November 2010

TIME: 2.00p.m -5.00p.m

INSTRUCTIONS:

Q1. COMPULSORY

- a) Demonstrate your understanding of the concept 'epistemology' by distinguishing the **Platonic** and the **Aristotelian** Theories of knowledge.
- b) Compare the Platonic theory of knowledge with the Augustinian Christian position regarding knowledge and its acquisition
- c) Show the relevance of the Platonic-Augustinian theories of knowledge in contemporary education in the context of formal institutions of learning.

Q2

- a) Define the concept of 'knowledge' and discuss the related prerequisite conditions.
- b) Identify various types of knowledge and demonstrate how each of them relates to your definition of the concept of 'knowledge'
- c) Using relevant examples, explain how your understanding of the concept of 'knowledge' would enhance your work as an educator,

Q3 Metaphysics and Epistemology are closely related concepts within the field of education

- a) Discuss the above assertion highlighting the differences and similarities between metaphysics and epistemology
- b) Define eight (8) of the following concepts and show the relevance of each to teaching and learning
 - Rationalism, empiricism, idealism, realism, understanding, perception, memory, skepticism, intuition, subjectivity, objectivity, inter-subjectivity, learning, theory, positivism, causation, sensation .

Q4

- a) What are the merits and demerits of authority as a source of knowledge?
- b) Examine the benefits and challenges related to the community of inquiry approach to teaching and learning.

Q5

- a) Evaluate the main features of post modernism as an epistemological perspective
- b) What is virtue epistemology and how relevant is it to education in Kenya today?

Q6 Discuss the complementary relationship between reason and sense experience with reference to educational research.