



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (DECEMBER SESSION)

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FOODS,

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

HFN 322: INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS

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DATE: WEDNESDAY 2ND MAY 2012

TIME: 8.00 A.M. – 10.00 A.M.

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INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ALL questions

1. Explain the meaning of the following terminologies
 - a) Confounding variables (2 marks)
 - b) Placebo (2 marks)
 - c) Informed consent (2 marks)
 - d) Control group (2 marks)
 - e) Cohort (2 marks)
2. *“Research provides the basis for nearly all government policies in the Kenyan nutrition and health systems”*. Explain. (5 marks)
3. Explain the difference between the following sampling methods:
 - a) Simple random sampling and stratified random sampling (4 marks)
 - b) Systematic sampling and multistage sampling (4 marks)
4. Explain five strengths of quantitative research as compared to qualitative research. (10 marks)

5. Explain the major weakness of a one-group pre-post test research designs. (2 marks)
6. Explain briefly the characteristics of the following research designs
- a) Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) (3 marks)
 - b) Cross-over Trials (2 marks)
- 7.
- a) Differentiate between validity and reliability (2 marks)
 - b) Explain four ways used to assess validity (8 marks)
 - c) Explain the meaning of test-retest reliability (2 marks)
- 8.
- a) Define randomization (2 marks)
 - b) Explain 4 main reasons why randomization is important (8 marks)
 - c) Discuss four ways of carrying out randomization (8 marks)