



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER
OF SCIENCE (FOODS, NUTRITION AND DIETETICS)

HFN 502N: RESEARCH METHODS

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DATE: WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH 2012

TIME: 9.00 A.M. – 12.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ALL the questions in the answer booklets provided

1. Giving examples, explain the following terms used in research. (10 marks)
 - a) Study population
 - b) Sampling bias
 - c) Sampling frame
 - d) Unit of observation
 - e) Hypothesis

2. You intend to conduct a study to investigate the “*Perceptions of HIV-infected clients on the quality of health services offered to them at a health Facility in Nairobi*”. The total number of the clients who visit this clinic are 100 according to the attendance register at the facility. You have decided on a random sample of 20 clients whom you intend to interview. The Table below contains the list of the study population.
 - a) Explain the procedure you would use to systematically sample the 20 clients to participate in the study. List the clients by numbers from the table below. (6 marks)
 - b) Explain how you would select 20 clients from the table below using simple random sampling (4 marks)

- c) Explain why simple random sampling technique may provide a more representative sample than systematic sampling in this context. (4 marks)

Attendance list of clients attending the health facility

1	26	51	76
2	27	52	77
3	28	53	78
4	29	54	79
5	30	55	80
6	31	56	81
7	32	57	82
8	33	58	83
9	34	59	84
10	35	60	85
11	36	61	86
12	37	62	87
13	38	63	88
14	39	64	89
15	40	65	90
16	41	66	91
17	42	67	92
18	43	68	93
19	44	69	94
20	45	70	95
21	46	71	96
22	47	72	97
23	48	73	98
24	49	74	99
25	50	75	100

3. a) What is the purpose of developing a proposal before conducting a survey? (10 marks)
- b) Describe the content of the following parts of a research proposal. (8 marks)
- i) Abstract
 - ii) Statement of the problem
 - iii) Significance of the study
 - iv) Study limitations
4. a) Explain the considerations to make when developing questionnaires. (8 marks)
- b) Explain the advantages and disadvantages of using mailed questionnaires and interviewer-administered questionnaires. (10 marks)
5. Explain the factors that influence the choice of:
- a) A research design to use to conduct a study (4 marks)
 - b) Data presentation methods to use in a thesis or report. (4 marks)