



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2014/2015

DIGITAL SCHOOL OF VIRTUAL & OPEN LEARNING

**SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE**

HCU 300: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: WEDNESDAY 29TH APRIL 2015 TIME: 8.00 A.M. – 10.00 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Question One and any other Two Questions

Question One

- a) Explain the following terms
- i) Research (1 mark)
 - ii) Confounded variable (1 mark)
 - iii) Control group (1 mark)
 - iv) Continuous variable (1 mark)
- b) Distinguish between the following terms
- i) primary and secondary data (2 marks)
 - ii) sample and population (2 marks)
 - iii) qualitative and quantitative data (2 marks)
 - iv) dependent and independent variables (2 marks)
 - v) Null and alternative hypothesis (2 marks)
- c) State any four methods of acquiring knowledge in research (2 marks)
- d) Explain clearly the purpose of carrying out research. (6 marks)

- e) Discuss the various categories of research on the basis of methods of analysis and the merits of each of these categories of research. (8 marks)

Question Two(20 marks)

- a) Distinguish between structured and unstructured interview and explain the advantages and disadvantages of each. (6 marks)
- b) State the instruments used in survey and explain the advantages and disadvantages of each of them for obtaining information for research. (14 marks)

Question Three (20 marks)

Describe the various components of a research proposal (20 marks)

Question Four (20 marks)

- a) Indicate the level of measurement for each of the following
- i) temperature of oil (1 mark)
 - ii) height of 5 year old children (1 mark)
 - iii) Gender (1 mark)
 - iv) Classification of BSc degrees (1 mark)
- b) Explain the importance of extensive literature review for research work (3 marks)
- c) Explain the criteria of a good research problem statement (2 marks)
- d) Explain the importance of the following in research
- i) Objectives (2 marks)
 - ii) Hypothesis (2 marks)
- e) Describe briefly the various sampling techniques used in research and highlight the merits and demerits of each sampling technique. (7 marks)