



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2016/2017 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS & FINANCE

BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS

UCO 300: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: 24/7/2017

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY 30 MARKS)

- a) Considering an economic related topic of researchable area, describe the possible research designs that will be used in studying the identified problem. (10 marks)
- b) Explain the eight steps in the research process (12 marks)
- c) Describe the two types of literature to review for research purposes. (8 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Briefly discuss some factors should a researcher consider in determining the method to use in collecting data (10 marks)
- b) Explain the four important aspects to be covered in the content of statement of the problem (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Using an hypothetical example of a good economics related topic, explain how You formulate the a good conceptual framework (10 marks)
- b) Briefly discuss the meaning of the following concepts as used in research
- i) Research methods and research methodology
 - ii) Concepts and variables
 - iii) Null hypothesis and alternative hypothesis
 - iv) Quantitative and qualitative research (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Describe the four main components of research design (10 marks)
- b) Briefly explain the important points an individual should consider when choosing a topic for research (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Using three examples from each category; Differentiate between probability and non-probability sampling (10 marks)
- b) Describe the different methods of collecting primary data and Explain the merits and demerits of each method. (10 marks)