



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2016/2017

SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR  
BACHELOR OF BACHELOR OF AGRIBUSINESS AND AGRICULTURE  
EDUCATION.

SUPPLEMENTARY/SPECIAL EXAMINATION

KCU 101: FUNDAMENTALS OF MATHEMATICS

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

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## INSTRUCTIONS

*Attempt Question 1 And Any Other 2 Questions.*

### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Determine  $\frac{5x^4+3x^3+2x-1}{x-3}$  (5 marks)
- b) Calculate the mean and standard deviation from the following numbers: 34.61, 34.57, 34.40, 34.63, 34.63, 34.51, 34.49, 34.61, 34.52, 34.55, 34.58, 34.53, 34.44, 34.48 and 34.40 (6 marks)
- c) Transpose the formula  $\frac{p}{q} = \sqrt{\frac{a+2b}{a-2b}}$  to make b the subject of the formula. (5 marks)
- d) Determine the solutions of the simultaneous equations  $y = x^2 + x + 1, y = 4 - x$ . (4 marks)
- e) Find the gradient of the curve  $y = 2t^4 + 3t^3 - t + 4$  at the point (0,4). (4 marks)
- f) The probability of a component failing in one year due to excessive temperature is  $\frac{1}{20}$ , due to excessive vibration is  $\frac{1}{25}$  and due to excessive humidity is  $\frac{1}{50}$ . Determine the probabilities that during a one-year period a component:
- (i) fails due to excessive vibration
  - (ii) fails due to excessive vibration or excessive humidity, and
  - (iii) will not fail because of both excessive temperature and excessive humidity.

(6 marks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Use the factor theorem to factorize  $x^3 + 4x^2 + x - 6$  and hence solve the cubic equation  $x^3 + 4x^2 + x - 6 = 0$ . (8 marks)
- b) If  $\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{i}+3\mathbf{j}+2\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}=2\mathbf{i}+5\mathbf{j}-\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{C}=\mathbf{i}+2\mathbf{j}+3\mathbf{k}$ , find  $(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{C}$  (6 marks)
- c) Solve the following systems by the Gauss-Jordan method:  $x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 = 8$ ;  $-x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 1$ ;  $3x_1 - 7x_2 + 4x_3 = 10$ . (6 marks)

### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Resolve  $\frac{18+21x-x^2}{(x-5)(x+2)^2}$  into partial fractions. (7 marks)
- b) Find the inverse of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ . (7marks)
- c) Plot a graph of  $y = 3e^{0.2x}$  over the range  $x = -3$  to  $x = 3$ . Hence determine the value of  $y$  when  $x = 1.4$  and the value of  $x$  when  $y = 4.5$  (6 marks)

### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) A rectangular building is 15m long by 11m wide. A concrete path of constant width is laid all the way around the building. If the area of the path is  $60.0\text{m}^2$ , calculate its width correct to the nearest millimetre. (6 marks)
- b) Solve the indicial equation  $4^{2x-1} = 5^{x+2}$  (7 marks)
- c) Given that  $f(x) = \frac{1+x}{1-x}$ , find  $f(x, y) = \frac{f(x)-f(y)}{1+f(x)f(y)}$ . Hence find  $(-2, 3)$ . (7 marks)

### QUESTION FIVE (20 marks)

- a) The number of faults occurring on a production line in a nine-week period are as shown below. Determine the median and quartile values for the data : 30 27 25 24 27 37 31 27 35 (8 marks)
- b) Solve the inequality  $|5-3t| > 4$  (6 marks)
- c) Evaluate  $\int_1^3 (x^2 - 4x + 3) dx$ . (6 marks)