



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2016/2017

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF

SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

HCU 300: INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: 24/7/2017

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of five questions.

Answer Question 1 and any other two questions

Question 1 carries 30 marks

Question 2-5 carry 20 marks each

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

You have been invited to give a seminar to the Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) in Machakos County on how to conduct research on issues affecting the youth.

- a) Develop a draft research topic on any challenge facing the youth in Machakos County; (2 marks)
- b) Write **two** objectives for your research on youth issues identified in (a) above; (4 marks)
- c) Describe any **three** purposes of conducting research; (6 marks)
- d) Explain any **three** reasons for conducting the review of literature; (6 marks)
- e) Differentiate between cross-sectional and longitudinal research designs; (6 marks)
- f) Write **three** advantages and **three** disadvantages of Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) as a method of data collection. (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Compare and contrast primary and secondary sources of data and include three merits and three demerits of each source. (20 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Differentiate between the following methods of data collection showing their merits and demerits.

- i) Structured Questionnaires; (10 marks)
- ii) Face-to-face Interviews. (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Differentiate between the characteristics of simple random and purposive sampling methods. (20 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

Discuss **four** sources of error that may occur throughout the research process. (20 marks)