MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2024/2025 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT & CURRICULUM STUDIES

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE MASTERS DEGREE IN EDUCATION PLANNING

EMP 814: DATA COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND APPRAISAL IN EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

DATE: 16TH JANUARY, 2025 **TIME: 9.00 AM – 12.00 PM**

INSTRUCTIONS:
*Answer **question ONE** and **any other THREE questions***

QUESTION ONE *(COMPULSORY)* (15 MARKS)

a) Explain the meaning of following terms as used in research:
   i) Simple Random Sampling
   ii) Educational research
   iii) Range
   iv) Intervening variable
   v) Sample (5 marks)

b) Using relevant examples, explain **FOUR** reasons why a researcher should observe ethical issues when interviewing respondents. (4 marks)

c) Using suitable examples, explain the steps followed when selecting a topic for a research study. (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

a) Describe the steps used when using the test-re-test method to determine the reliability of a research instrument. (7 marks)

b) Using suitable examples, explain **FOUR** challenges a master's student may encounter when establishing the face validity of a research instrument. (4 marks)

c) Explain **FOUR** strategies a researcher may adopt to minimize the challenges identified in (2b) above. (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

a) Using appropriate examples, explain **FOUR** reasons that a researcher may prefer to use questionnaires instead of interviews to collect data in a study. (6 marks)

b) Explain **FOUR** challenges a student may encounter when using an interview to collect data in scientific research. (4 marks)

c) Using suitable examples, discuss **FIVE** measures that can be put in place to mitigate against the challenges identified in 3(b) above. (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

a) Using hypothetical data, explain the **THREE** measures of central tendency as applied in research. (6 marks)

b) Citing relevant examples, explain **FOUR** sampling techniques you can apply to select a sample for a study. (6 marks)

c) Using relevant examples, explain the importance of a theoretical framework in academic research. (3 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

a) "Many stakeholders are concerned about postgraduate students taking more time to complete the studies against the stipulated programme duration". Discuss the validity of this statement. (3 marks)

b) Using suitable examples, explain **THREE** consequences of plagiarism in educational research. (6 marks)

c) Explain **THREE** measures that can be put in place to mitigate against the challenges identified in 5(a) above. (6 marks)