



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2019/2020 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
BACHELOR OF ARTS

ACU 202: METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

DATE: 30/11/2020

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer QUESTION ONE and any other TWO QUESTIONS.

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) (30 MARKS)

- a) Explain the meaning of the following:
- i. Research problem (2 marks)
 - ii. Census inquiry (2 marks)
 - iii. Objective (2 marks)
- b) Identify a research topic in your field study and do the following:
- i. State the general objective. (2 marks)
 - ii. State two specific objectives. (4 marks)
 - iii. Illustrate a conceptual framework clearly showing the dependent and independent variables. (6 marks)
- c) Discuss any 2 types of non-probability sampling methods and show their importance in research. (6 marks)
- d) Outline any six motives for doing research. (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Research objectives should always be SMART. Explain. (5 marks)
- b) Identify any five main characteristics of a research problem. (5 marks)
- c) Explain any five factors to be considered when determining the sample size in a study. (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) With the help of appropriate examples examine any five types of research. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss the importance of literature review citing relevant examples. (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Describe any four probability sampling techniques and for each indicate the situations they can be used. (12 marks)
- b) Argue the case for questionnaires as tools for data collection in conducting research. (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Differentiate the following terms as used in research. (4 marks)
- i) Population and sample
 - ii) Dependent and independent variables.
- b) Use the APA reference style to make a bibliography reference for the following source:
- i) A journal authored by John Ringera and Ronald Kwach, the town of publication is Nairobi in the year 2003. The title of the article is ‘corruption in Kenya’s judiciary’ and the journal is ‘the journal of of law society of Kenya. (3 marks)
 - ii) A book entitled healthy living which was published in 2010. The book was authored by Moses Kibirango and was published in Kampala. (3 marks)
- c) Analyse any five research designs giving examples of research studies where they would apply. (10 marks)