



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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MAIN EXAMINATION

MAY – JULY 2015 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN EDUCATION

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ED 506: QUALITATIVE RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

Date: JULY 2015	Duration: 3 Hours
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INSTRUCTIONS: Answer ANY FOUR Questions
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- Q1. a) Explain philosophies that inform qualitative, quantitative and Mixed Methods Research (MMR) paradigms. **(7 marks)**
- b) Show the differences between qualitative and quantitative research paradigms in the light of the philosophical assumptions that inform each. **(12.5 marks)**
- Q2. Examine the similarities and differences between ethnography and grounded theory research designs under the following areas:
- a) Study focus and origin of the design. **(4.5 marks)**
- b) Sampling. **(3 marks)**
- c) Data collection, recording, analyses and the final product. **(10 marks)**
- Q3. a) Explain the following concepts and support your answer with relevant examples in educational research

- i Emic and etic perspectives
 - ii Transcribing
 - iii Researcher's role/personality
 - iv Maximum variation sampling
 - v Core category **(10 marks)**
- b) Explain methods a qualitative researcher can use to ensure validity and trustworthiness in his/her research at the following stages
- i Literature review
 - ii Access to study site, data collection and recording
 - iii Data analyses and report writing. **(7.5 marks)**

Q4. Appendix I shows data from a study to describe "the caring and non-caring interactions between nurses and patients in a local hospital" One of the research questions was 'describe to me a personal interaction you have had with a registered nurse (RN) who you felt was not caring.

- a) Demonstrate initial analyses and open coding of the data using the margins. **(2.5 marks)**
- b) Use a content analysis guide (CAG) to show codes, categories/statements and themes constructed from the categories. **(10 marks)**
- c) Write down a paragraph explaining possible research design and a core category of a non-caring nurse/client interaction. **(5 marks)**

Q5. Justify the reasons for adopting a qualitative research paradigm and explain the major characteristics of a good qualitative study. **(17.5 marks)**

END