THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

MAIN EXAMINATION

JANUARY – APRIL 2014 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

REGULAR PROGRAMME

SDS 201: RESEARCH METHODS

Date: APRIL 2014	**Duration: 2 Hours**

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and ANY OTHER TWO Questions

Q1. a) One of the basic social research objective is to formulate and test theoretical construct and propositions.
    i) Briefly describe the research process and its stages.

        (8 marks)

    ii) What are some major sources of information regarding research problems? **(4 marks)**

b) Describe the following methodologies in research.
    i) Qualitative research   **(2 marks)**
    ii) Content analysis   **(2 marks)**

c) i) Define measurement in research. **(3 marks)**
    ii) Why is measurement important to scientific research?

        (3 marks)

d) Distinguish between the following constructs in research design:
    i) Internal validity   **(2 marks)**
    ii) External validity   **(2 marks)**

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e) i) Define the concept "reliability". **(2 marks)**

ii) Briefly discuss the ways of assessing reliability. **(3 marks)**

Q2. Ethical concerns often arise in the conduct of research.

a) Discuss ways by which you can protect the privacy of individuals when dealing with sensitive research topics such as drug use.

b) Distinguish between issues of anonymity and confidentiality in research? **(20 marks)**

Q3. a) Describe the basic techniques of survey data collection.

b) Discuss the advantages of mail questionnaires, telephone interviews, and personal interviews. **(20 marks)**

Q4. Distinguish between probability and non-probability sampling and explain the advantages and disadvantages of each. **(20 marks)**

Q5. a) Write a researchable hypothesis and identify the independent, dependent and control variables.

b) Using the above hypothesis, clearly indicate the expected changes in the dependent and independent variables.

c) Write a null-hypothesis form the given hypothesis in (a). **(20 marks)**

END

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