



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

MAIN EXAMINATION

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AUGUST – DECEMBER 2017 TRIMESTER

CENTRE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ETHICS

REGULAR PROGRAMME

JPE 306: RESEARCH METHODS

Date: DECEMBER 2017

Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and ANY OTHER TWO Questions

- Q1. a) Define the following concepts:
- i) Research (1 Mark)
 - ii) Variable (1 Mark)
 - iii) Sample (1 Mark)
 - iv) Operations Research (1 Mark)
- b) Differentiate the following and give relevant examples to support your answers:
- i) Descriptive Research and Causal Comparative Research (2 Marks)
 - ii) Intervening Variables and Extraneous Variables (2 Marks)
 - iii) Deductive and Inductive Reasoning (2 Marks)
 - iv) Basic and Applied Research (2 Marks)
- c) Justify the need for developing a research proposal (4 Marks)
- d) Explain reasons why a researcher should ensure that his/her research instrument are valid and reliable. (5 Marks)
- e) Use the following marks for a Justice and Peace class in Research Methods Course exam (65, 80, 90, 74, 88, 80, 68, 84, 92, 78)
- i) Find the range of the data (1 Mark)
 - ii) State the mode of the data (1 Mark)
 - iii) Estimate the median of the data (1 Mark)
 - iv) Calculate the mean score (1 Mark)
 - v) Compute the Standard Deviation (5 Marks)

- Q2. a) Describe any two probability sampling techniques and any two non-probability sampling techniques **(10 marks)**
- b) Examine the purpose of literature review in the research process **(10 Marks)**
- Q3. Examine the characteristics of qualitative and quantitative research paradigms **(20 Marks)**
- Q4. a) Differentiate between a questionnaire and an interview guide and explain advantages and disadvantages of each **(8 Marks)**
- b) Advise a colleague on FOUR strategies he/she can use to ensure ethical issues in social science research. **(12 Marks)**
- Q5. A third year student in your department is preparing to conduct research but does not know the best design to use. Advise him/her on the available research designs so that he/she can make an inform choice. **(20 Marks)**

END