



**MASENO UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017**

**SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE  
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY WITH  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**MAIN CAMPUS**

**ASO 203: RESEARCH METHODS I**

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

Time: 8.30 - 11.30 am

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer ANY THREE questions.

**ASO 203: RESEARCH METHODS I**  
**SECOND YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER**  
**MAIN CAMPUS**

ANSWER ANY **THREE** QUESTIONS

1. a) What do you understand by research? **(3.3 Marks)**  
b) Examine the various characteristics in research? **(10 Marks)**  
c) Discuss the various approaches to knowledge production. **(10 Marks)**
2. Briefly distinguish between the following set of key research terms;
  - a) Population and universe; **(5 Marks)**
  - b) Sampling frame and sample; **(5 Marks)**
  - c) Unit of analysis and respondent; **(4 Marks)**
  - d) Variable and constant; **(4 Marks)**
  - e) Parameter and statistic. **(5.3 Marks)**
3. a) Discuss the qualitative and quantitative research approaches. **(13Marks)**  
b) Assess the various components of a research design? **(10 Marks)**
4. Discuss the concepts of reliability and validity pointing out the various approaches for attaining them. **(23.3 Marks)**
5. a) Discuss the various assumptions underlying scientific enquiry. **(10 Marks)**  
b) Examine the various categorizations of social science research. **(13 Marks)**
6. Discuss the challenges faced by Kenyan researchers and recommend suitable solutions. **(23.3 Marks)**