



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY
NUTRITION AND DEVELOPMENT

CITY CAMPUS

PCN 815: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Date: 29th April, 2016

Time: 9.00 - 12.00 noon

INSTRUCTIONS:

- This paper is made up of three (3) sections, A, B, and C
- Section A has 10 marks and is composed of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)
- Section B has 10 marks and is composed of Short Answer Questions (SAQs)
- Section C has 40 marks and is composed of Long Answer Questions (LAQs)
- Answer ALL questions in sections A and B in the spaces provided in the question paper
- Answer any TWO (2) questions in section C (each question = 20 marks) in the answer booklet provided.

SECTION A (10 MARKS)

Answer all the questions in this section in the answer sheet provided below

ANSWER SHEET FOR MCQ (SINGLE RESPONSE QUESTIONS)

REG. NO _____

COURSE CODE AND TITLE _____

SECTION _____

	a	b	c	d	e
1					
2					
3					
4					
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6					
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8					
9					
10					

SECTION A

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION (10 MARKS)

- MCQ1.** A good qualitative problem statement _____
a. Defines the independent and dependent variables

- b. Conveys a sense of emerging design
- c. Specifies a research hypothesis to be tested
- d. Specifies the relationship between variables that the researcher expects to find
- e. None of the above

MCQ2. Which of the following is not a source of research ideas?

- a. Everyday life
- b. Practical issues
- c. Past research
- d. Theory
- e. All of the above

MCQ3. Which of the following is necessary in obtaining informed consent?

- a. A description of the statistical analyses that will be carried out
- b. A description of the purpose of the research
- c. A description of the reliability and validity of test instruments
- d. A list of publications that the researcher has had in the last ten years

MCQ4. Which of the following need(s) to be obtained when doing research with children?

- a. Informed consent from the parent or guardian
- b. Assent from the child if he or she is capable
- c. Informed consent from the child
- d. Both a and b
- e. None of the above

MCQ5. An ordinal scale is _____

- a. The simplest form of measurement
- b. A rank-order scale of measurement
- c. A scale with equal intervals between adjacent numbers
- d. A scale with an absolute zero point
- e. A categorical scale

MCQ6. Which of the following steps is NOT included in planning a research study?

- a. Identifying a researchable problem
- b. A review of current research
- c. Statement of the research question
- d. Conducting a meta-analysis of the research
- e. Developing a research plan

MCQ7. Which of the following is necessary in obtaining informed consent?

- a. A description of the statistical analyses that will be carried out
- b. A description of the purpose of the research
- c. A description of the reliability and validity of test instruments
- d. A list of publications that the researcher has had in the last ten years

MCQ8. What is it called when the participants are not revealed to anyone but researcher and staff?

- a. Confidentiality
- b. Anonymity
- c. Ethics
- d. Discretion
- e. None of the above

MCQ9. Which scale is the simplest form of measurement?

- a. Nominal
- b. Ordinal
- c. Interval
- d. Ratio
- e. None of the above

MCQ10. Reliability is most simply known as which of the following?

- a. Consistency or stability
- b. Appropriateness of interpretations on the basis of test scores
- c. Ways in which people are the same
- d. A rank order of participants on some characteristic
- e. All of the above

SECTION B

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION (10 MARKS)

SAQ11. A conceptual framework is used to guide a research study. Describe the steps involved in designing a conceptual framework. **(6 Marks)**

SAQ12. Distinguish between **(4 Marks)**

- a) Dichotomous and polytomous variable.
- b) Intervening and confounding variable.

SECTION C

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE (1) AND ANY OTHER ONE (1) QUESTION
IN THIS SECTION(TOTAL=20 MARKS)**

LAQ13. A research proposal is a core activity of postgraduate learning processes and the knowledge of designing a good research proposal is required for the fulfilment of the requirements of Master of Science degree in Community Nutrition. Discuss the core parts of a research proposal giving relevant details with clear examples of your choice. **(20 Marks)**

LAQ14. Discuss **FOUR (4)** types of research designs. **(20 Marks)**

LAQ15. An investigator uses a suitable instrument for data collection. Discuss the questionnaire as a research instrument, stating the types and factors to take into consideration when constructing a questionnaire. **(20 Marks)**