



## **MASENO UNIVERSITY**

### **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2013/2014**

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE  
DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN LITERATURE  
(MAIN CAMPUS)

#### **ALI 801: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

*Date: 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2013,*

*Time: 9.00 - 12.00 noon*

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- **Answer Question ONE (COMPULSORY) and any other TWO questions.**
- **Avoid unnecessary duplication of material in answer to more than one question.**

# MASENO UNIVERSITY

## Department of Literary Studies

ALI 801: Research Methodology  
September-December 2013 End of Semester Examination

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*Answer THREE questions in all. Question ONE (1) is compulsory. Avoid duplication of material in answer to more than one question.*

1.

*I keep six honest serving-men  
(They taught me all I knew);  
Their names are What and Why and When  
And How and Where and Who  
(Rudyard Kipling, 1865–1936)*

“A well-structured, properly-reported study must provide answers to all questions regarding the what, why, when, how, where, and who associated with the research.” Discuss. **(20 marks)**

2. With specific examples, discuss the characteristics of academic research. **(20 marks)**
3. “Reviewing literature can be time-consuming, daunting and frustrating, but is also rewarding.” Discuss the importance of literature review in academic research. **(20 marks)**
4. To what extent do you agree that formulating the research problem is the first and most crucial step in the research process? **(20 marks)**
5. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of:
  - a. One major data collection methods in academic research **(10 marks)**
  - b. One major data analysis method in academic research **(10 marks)**
6. Examine the challenges faced by researchers in writing up research findings. **(20 marks)**
7. Discuss the major ethical considerations in academic research. **(20 marks)**

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