



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016

**THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCE WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

MAIN CAMPUS

NES 311: RESEARCH METHODS

Date: 19th April, 2016

Time: 11.00 - 1.00 pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

1. a) Explain the following terms in research:
 - i. Population [2 marks]
 - ii. Sample [2 marks]
 - iii. Variable [2 marks]
- b) Citing relevant examples, explain the following
 - i. Descriptive research [5 marks]
 - ii. Causal-comparative research [5 marks]
- c) Describe four non-probability and three probability sampling techniques used in research. [14 marks]
2. a). Describe the steps involved in carrying out literature review. [10 Marks]
- b). Explain FIVE ways of identifying a specific research problem from broad area. [10 marks]
3. a) Explain the measurement scales used in research. [8 marks]
- b) Describe the types of experimental research designs. [12 Mark]
4. You have been sponsored to undertake research on wildlife in all the protected areas in Kenya, describe the logistical and ethical issues you are likely to consider. [20 marks]
5. In your area of interest, formulate the following:
 - a) Background to the study [6 marks]
 - a) The problem statement [6 marks]
 - b) Objectives [4 marks]
 - c) Hypotheses [4 marks]

6. a. Explain the following methods of data collection:

i. Interviews [5 marks]

ii. Observation [5 marks]

b. Describe how validity and reliability of research findings are addressed. [10 marks]
