



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2012/2013 ACADEMIC YEAR
INSTITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME

**....YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION**

**COURSE CODE/TITLE: ECE 308 : RESEARCH IN CHILD AND FAMILY
STUDIES 1**

END OF SEMESTER:II

DURATION:

DAY/TIME:.....

DATE:.....

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer question **ONE** and any other **THREE**.

Question One : (25 marks)

- a) Define the concept "Research". (2 marks)
- b) Describe any three characteristics of a scientific Research. (3 marks)
- c) Explain three reasons why research in the area of child and family is important in the contemporary society. (3 marks)
- d) What are the differences and similarities between tenacity and authority as methods of knowing. (4 marks)
- e) Distinguish between the following concepts using relevant examples.
 - i) Discrete and continuous data. (3 marks)
 - ii) Independent and dependent variables. (3 marks)
- f) i) State three reasons why sampling is necessary in research. (3 marks)

- ii) Describe two types of non-probability sampling. (4 marks)

Question Two: (15 marks)

- a) Make a clear distinction between true experiments and Quasi experiments (5 marks)
- b) Explain why Quasi-Experimental researches are preferred in child and family studies to true experimental studies. (5 marks)
- c) i) Identify, and write out an example of a study problem that would be appropriately investigated as a quasi experiment in the area of child and family studies. (2 marks)
- ii) In the study identified in c i, what are your independent and dependent variables? (2 marks)
- iii) Identify two possible extraneous variable. (2 marks)

Question Three: (15 marks)

- a) Define the concept “hypothesis” in research? (2 marks)
- b) Describe four characteristics of a good research hypothesis. (6 marks)
- c) Differentiate between a null and an alternative hypotheses using clear illustrations. (5 marks)
- d) Explain what a confounding variable is in research (2 marks)

Question Four: (15 marks)

Discuss qualitative and quantitative research designs. In your discussion:

- a) Describe the major characteristics of each. (5 marks)
- b) Show when it is appropriate to use each. (5 marks)
- c) Show the strengths and weaknesses of each. (5 marks)

Question Five: (15 marks)

Discuss the use of the following data collection techniques with specific reference to the area of early childhood researches:

- a) Questionnaires
- b) Interviews
- c) Projective tests.