



**MASEÑO UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2015/2016**

**FIRST YEAR EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER  
OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

**CITY CAMPUS**

**NES 807: RESEARCH METHODS**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

Time: 9.00 - 11.00am

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer any FOUR questions
- Question ONE is compulsory.

1. Different authors have classified research in different ways. Based on Gay's classification identify and discuss the different types of research. [15 mks]
2. a) Explain what you understand by the term "Content analysis", and thus indicate how it is applicable in scientific research. [5mks]  
b) With the help of a suitable example, explain how you would conduct content analysis. [10 mks]
3. A sound review of literature or of existing theories often leads to good research hypotheses. Elucidate the characteristics of good research hypotheses [15 mks]
4. a) Describe the different experimental designs used in scientific research. [10Mks]  
b) Explain the purpose of experimental research design. [5 mks]
5. As a researcher, you've identified "strikes and riots in secondary schools in Kenya" as a problem that needs to be addressed.  
a) Using VIPP (Visual in Participatory Program) and Assessment Analysis and Action (triple A) approach, identify the participants you would involve in your study. [6mks]  
b) Elucidate the first 5 steps involved in VIPP [9 mks]
6. Traffic congestion has been identified as one of the major environmental problems in the Transport Sector within Kisumu City.  
a) Formulate a researchable title for the identified problem [3 mks]  
b) Formulate two SMART research objectives and their respective research questions from the title in (a) [6 mks]  
c) Discuss the significance of this study. [6mks]