



# MASENO UNIVERSITY

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2012/2013

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR  
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY  
(CITY CAMPUS)

### ASO 801: PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

*Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2013*

*Time: 5.30 – 8.30 p.m.*

---

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

- ♦ Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

**ASO 801: PHILOSOPHY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
KISUMU CITY CAMPUS COLLEGE  
YEAR TWO, SEMESTER ONE**

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS**

1. Explain how philosophers perceive the idea of knowledge. (30 Marks)
2. Examine how the concepts the social theorists put forward are thought to relate to the social world and its history. (15 Marks)
3. Show how the process of collecting and/or creating 'new' data is a philosophical process. (15 Marks)
4. Discuss the following central philosophical terms of Social Sciences:
  - a) Logic; (5 Marks)
  - b) Inference; (5 Marks)
  - c) Theory. (5 Marks)
5. What do Social Scientists as a whole need to know about 'populations'? How do they gather and use the information they need? (15 Marks)
6. "The process of collecting data takes the form of secondary and primary type. The latter is creating 'new' data and is a matter of some philosophic importance". Discuss. (15 Marks)