



# UNIVERSITY OF EMBU

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2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
AGRICULTURE

AAS 311: RESEARCH METHODS AND COMMUNICATING SCIENCE

DATE: APRIL 11, 2018

TIME: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Question

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QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Define research ( 3 marks )
- b) Differentiate the following terms as applied in research methods : Validity and reliability (4 marks )
- c) Outline four reasons why it is important to have an experimental design (4 marks)
- d) List four methods of data collection (4 marks )
- e) You are a supervisor of a student writing a proposal for her master's programme. Explain to the student why referencing should be done correctly (5 marks)
- f) You are considering conducting a survey on animal breeds in Embu County with the help of a questionnaire. Briefly discuss what you will bear in mind (5 marks )
- g) Briefly explain the relationship between an independent and dependent variable with the help of an example (5 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

You are a research assistant in the research involving poultry breeds in Embu County. In a stepwise fashion illustrate how you will formulate a research problem (20 marks)

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**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) In interpreting the analyzed data, the researcher should take precautions. Discuss (5 marks)
- b) Discuss the three approaches to research (15 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Outline five characteristics of an effective presentation (5 marks)
- b) Briefly explain the steps of writing a proposal (15 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the considerations you will make when selecting a research problem (20 marks)

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