



# UNIVERSITY OF EMBU

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## 2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION

### FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT

#### AEB 405: RESEARCH METHODS

**DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2016**

**TIME: 8:30-10:30AM**

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Answer Question ONE and ANY other TWO Questions**

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#### **QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

The CEC of Agriculture in your County has noted increasing collapse of small - scale irrigation schemes and has contracted you to conduct a research to explain the phenomenon

- a) Design an appropriate title for the study (2 marks)
- b) Identify both the dependent and independent variables from the title (2 marks)
- c) State the general objective and two specific objectives that will guide the study (6 marks)
- d) State two research questions to guide your study (2 marks)
- e) State the problem of your study (5 marks)
- f) Giving reasons for each, explain three sources of data for the study (6 marks)
- g) Explain the significance of your study (5 marks)
- h) Explain two ethical norms that you will consider as you carry out the study (2 marks)

#### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) "Every day knowing" is one of the approaches used in seeking knowledge. Explain five ways in which people can gain knowledge (10 marks)

- b) Discuss the use of theoretical framework in carrying out social science research (10 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Before researchers engage in the details of their study, they usually search for the literature to find out what has been written about the area of their study. Explain why this is necessary (10 marks)
- b) What are the common mistakes a researcher should avoid when carrying out literature review (10 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Sampling is a process of selecting a sufficient number of participants to be used in a specific study.

Using this statement;

- a) Differentiate between
- i) A subject and an element (2 marks)
  - ii) Population and census (2 marks)
  - iii) Probability and non-probability sampling designs (2 marks)
  - iv) Stratified and clustered sampling techniques (2 marks)
- b) What do you understand by the term sampling error? (2 marks)
- c) Explain five reasons why a researcher should carry out sampling (10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) A researcher has the option of using Quantitative or Qualitative research approaches. Explain the differences between the two approaches (12 marks)
- b) With the aid of appropriate examples explain the four levels of measurements used in research (8 marks)

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