



UNIVERSITY OF EMBU

2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

**FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXTENSION**

AEX: 405 RESEARCH METHOD

DATE: APRIL 12, 2017

TIME:2:00-4:00PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Questions.

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Briefly explain the meaning of the following concepts
- i) Independent variable (2 marks)
 - ii) Dependent variable (2 marks)
 - iii) Scientific research (2 marks)
- b) Explain three distinguishing characteristics of scientific research (3 marks)
- c) Statement of the problem is an integral part of a research. Give an account of the features of a good statement of the problem. (5 marks)
- d) Why is it necessary to formulate research hypotheses while writing a research proposal. (6 marks)
- e) Distinguish between the following terms as used in research methodology
- i) Population and Target population (2 marks)
 - ii) Sample and sampling frame (2 marks)
 - iii) Primary sources of data and secondary sources of data (2 marks)
- f) Assume that you are conducting research in your area of specialization. What are the main ethical issues you need to consider in your research study (4 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Research plays significant roles in any given society. Explain (8 marks)
- b) Review of literature involves systematic identification, location and analysis of documents that contain information related to the problem being investigated. Describe the steps to be followed in undertaking literature review (8 marks)
- c) Give an overview of what is entailed in the purpose of the study as used in research (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain the meaning of the following concepts as used in data processing and analysis operations
 - i) Editing (2 marks)
 - ii) Coding (2 marks)
 - iii) Classification (4 marks)
 - iv) Tabulation (4 marks)
- b) Describe the components you would include in the preliminary pages when reporting your research findings (8 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Give an account of any five factors that a researcher should pay attention to in order to arrive at correct data interpretation (5 marks)
- b) Demonstrate how a researcher can use Stratified Sampling Technique in research (5 marks)
- c) You are required to carry out research on influence of selected factors on youth participation in agriculture in Embu County. The selected factors include:-
 - I. Youth access to land
 - II. Youth access to finances
 - III. Youth access to markets for agricultural products
 - IV. Youth perception towards agriculture.
 - i) Give the statement of the purpose of the study (2 marks)
 - ii) What do you think will be the objectives of the study (4 marks)
 - iii) Formulate the hypotheses for the study (4 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Briefly explain the main sources of non-scientific data in any given society. (6 marks)
- b) You are required to write a research proposal in your specific field of study. Give an overview of what to observe to ensure a good research proposal (6 marks)
- c) Research can be classified on the basis of the research designs. Discuss the distinguishing characteristics between case study and survey research designs. (8 marks)

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