



(University of Choice)

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

(MMUST)

MAIN CAMPUS

SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

MAIN EXAMINATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

COURSE CODE: DEM 810

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS AND SKILLS

DATE: 25/9/2019

TIME: 9 – 12 NOON

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer any THREE (3) questions

All questions contain the same marks

TIME: 3 HOURS

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

Question ONE

- (a) Lunyolo is an M. Sc. student in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance in MMUST. She is having difficulty identifying a research problem. She has come to you for advice. Discuss six pieces of advice you would offer her about where or how she can get started. (6marks)
- (b) Define the term "data Interpretation" giving four reasons why you think it is important to interpret data (6marks)
- (c) Differentiate between the following
 - i. Primary and secondary data (2marks)
 - ii. Qualitative and quantitative data (2marks)
- (d) Name and describe two tools used in the interview method of data collection (4 marks)

Question TWO

- (a) Discuss four features of a good research design (4 marks)
- (b) Describe the following data collection methods stating two advantages and two disadvantages of each (9 marks)
 - i. The questionnaire
 - ii. The observation
 - iii. The interview
- (c) Discuss five sampling techniques, stating where each is most appropriate, advantages and disadvantages (5marks)
- (d) Describe what is contained in the following sections of the research proposal (2marks)
 - i. Operational definition
 - ii. Delimitation

Question THREE

- (a) Discuss five considerations in formulating an academic research proposal (10 marks)
- (b) What is the importance of conducting literature review during the research process

Question FOUR

- (a) Any research should be conducted rigorously, systematically and ethically. Discuss the Ethical issues that a researcher needs to be aware of (10marks)
- (b) Briefly describe any four different non-parametric tests explaining the significance of each test (4marks)
- (c) The credibility of research findings is dependent on the reliability and validity of data collection instruments
 - i. Explain four threats to validity of research instruments (4 marks)
 - ii. Explain how you can overcome threats to validity of your research instruments (2marks)