(University of Choice)

MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MMUST)

MAIN EXAMINATION

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

FOR THE DEGREE
OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ECONOMICS

COURSE CODE: ECO 803

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: MONDAY, 18-12-2023   **TIME:** 2:00 -5:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

ATTEMPT QUESTION **ONE** AND ANY OTHER **THREE**

TIME: 3 Hours

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

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

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSARY)

a) Explain what you think is a relevant research problem and examine any six approaches that can be used in the exploration of a research problem. (14 Marks)

b) What are the key questions that you need to ask when exploring a research topic. (4 Marks)

c) Distinguish between qualitative and quantitative research (12 Marks)

d) Discuss the appropriate ordering of questions in a data collection instrument (10 marks)

QUESTION TWO

a) Examine the characteristics of a good statement of the problem and its contents. (9 marks)

b) Discuss the various reasons for the literature review for any research (7 marks)

c) Make a distinction between validity and reliability of the data collection instrument (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE

a) A research captured different types of variables in his conceptual framework, what are the likely variables that the person is likely to have in his conceptual framework (6 marks)

b) Explain the differences between probability and non-probability sampling techniques? Use examples to justify your answer. (14 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

a) After data clean up, the student can carry out analysis using different types of analysis techniques examine any four (12 marks)

b) Examine some of the ethical issues that might arise in the process of reporting findings (6 marks)

c) Define a hypothesis (2 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

a) Describe the hypothesis testing errors that are usually committed in the process of making inferences and classify the various types of hypothesis. (12 marks)

b) Examine the characteristics of research objectives. (8 marks)

QUESTION SIX

a) Sometimes we get missing values and outliers after data collection, why do missing values occur and what is an outlier and how do we correct them? (8 marks)

b) Distinguish between parametric and non-parametric tests. (7 marks)

c) Define research and give any three attributes of research. (5 marks)