

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

1ST SEMESTER 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ECONOMICS

ECON 440: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

STREAM: *ECON STAT/SOCI*

TIME: *2 HRS*

DAY: *THURSDAY [11.30-1.30 P.M]*

DATE: *7/12/2023*

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES

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Instructions

1. Answer question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions.
2. Question **ONE** is compulsory and carries **30** marks
3. All other questions carry **20** marks each.
4. Ensure your hand writing is neat and legible. Also ensure that your grammar is correct with **NO** editorial errors.

QUESTION ONE

- a) Distinguish between cluster sampling and quota sampling. **(4 Marks)**
- b) During this semester, you prepared a research proposal in groups as part of your assessment. Answer the following questions using the proposal from your individual group.
- i) What are your key variables? **(4 Marks)**
 - ii) What is your unit of analysis? **(3 Marks)**
 - iii) State your research objective. **(2Marks)**
 - iv) State your research question. **(2Marks)**
- c) A researcher sets out to determine whether there is a relationship between non-performing loans and profit of a bank. Performance is measured using return on assets.
- i) What are the variables? Give reasons for your answer. **(4 Marks)**
 - ii) State the hypotheses. **(3 Marks)**
 - iii) Which kind of data analysis is likely to be used in this study? Give reasons for your answer. **(4 marks)**
 - iv) What would a statistical value of 0.7 mean in this study? **(4 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) Explain **THREE** distinctions between quantitative and qualitative research. **(12 Marks)**
- b) Explain **FOUR** methods that can be used to test reliability of a research instrument. **(8 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Outline four merits and four demerits of using observation as a data collection technique. **(8 marks)**
- b) Describe any four components of a research problem. **(4 marks)**
- c) Explain four methods of theme identification when using unstructured in-depth interview. **(8marks)**



QUESTION FOUR

- a) Explain any five considerations that a researcher should bear in mind when formulating questions for a research instrument. **(10 marks)**
- b) Outline three merits and three demerits of self-completion questionnaires. **(6 marks)**
- c) Suggest any four ways of improving response rates for postal questionnaires. **(4 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Distinguish between a Likert scale and a semantic differential. **(4 Marks)**
- b) The levels of measurement determine the data analysis method that a researcher can use. Explain the FOUR levels of measurement. **(16 Marks)**

