



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

**FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

CITY CAMPUS

NES 807: RESEARCH METHODS

Date: 30th November, 2016

Time: 2.00 - 5.00 pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer ANY FOUR questions.

KISUMU TOWN CAMPUS

NES 807: RESEARCH METHODS

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer Any FOUR questions.

1. Gay defines research as a process of collecting data in order to test hypotheses or to answer questions concerning the current status of subjects in a study. Elucidate the steps involved in descriptive research.

[15 mks]

2. Identify an environmental problem prevalent in your locality and:

- a) Formulate a researchable title for that problem.

[3 mks]

- b) Develop two strategies that can address the problem through project intervention.

[4 mks]

- c) From (b) above formulate one SMART objective for each of the identified strategies and their respective research questions

[4 mks]

- d) Derive appropriate research question from the specific objectives in (c) above.

[4 mks]

3. a) Discuss FIVE purposes of research.

[10 mks]

- b) Identify and explain briefly, FIVE properties of scientific research

[5 mks]

4. Analyze the main sections of a research proposal that are considered mandatory regardless of one's discipline. [15 mks]
5. a) Explain the broad categories of units of analysis. [10 mks]
- b) Differentiate between cross-sectional and longitudinal research designs. [5 mks]
6. Every questionnaire should be accompanied by a letter of transmittal during the actual data collection exercise. Write a sample of a cover letter highlighting all the important information that it contains. [15 mks]