JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SCHOOL OF SPATIAL PLANNING

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SPATIAL PLANNING AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

SEMESTER 2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

CENTRE: MAIN CAMPUS

COURSE CODE: PSP 3213

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS

EXAM VENUE: LAB 8   **STREAM: SPATIAL PLANNING**

DATE: 20/04/17   **EXAM SESSION: 9.00 – 11.00 AM**

TIME: 2 HOURS

Instructions:

1. **Answer question 1 (compulsory) and ANY other 2 questions.**

2. **Candidates are advised not to write on the question paper.**

3. **Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room.**

Q1. (a) (i) Explain the meaning of the term "Research"   [2Mks]

   (ii) Describe the **TEN** steps in a research process.   [10Mks]

 (b) Explain the importance of research for a society   [6Mks]

 (c) (i) Explain the meaning of the term "theory" in a research context   [2Mks]

   (ii) Explain the importance of using theory in a research   [4mks]

 (d) (i) Describe the concepts of **validity** and **reliability** in research and show how you can ensure that you conduct a research that is valid and reliable   [6Mks]

Q2 (a) The following terms are key in specifying a good research problem/question. Clearly explain the meaning of each of the terms.

 (i) Concepts   [2Mks)

 (ii) Indicators/variables   [2Mks]

 (iii) Objectives   [2Mks]

 (iv) Hypothesis   [2Mks]

 (b) A clearly stated research question is important in a research process. Describe at least Six characteristics of a good research question.   [12mks]

Q3 (a) Explain why it is important to do a proper Literature review for a research project   [8Mks]

 (b) Identify and describe four ways/dimensions of classifying research types/designs giving examples in each case   [12Mks]

Q4 (a) D**escribe** any **TWO** methods of collecting data, showing the advantages and disadvantages of each method.   [15Mks]

 (b) What ethical elements would you consider when selecting a suitable method of collecting data for your research   [5Mks]

Q5. (a) (i) Why do researchers use samples to study their population in research?   [2mks]

 (b) Describe any two types of
  i) Probability sampling procedures   [6Mks]
  ii) Non Probability Sampling procedures   [6Mks]
 (c) (i) Describe any two methods you would use to analyse qualitative data collected during research   [4Mks]
iii) ii) List any **FOUR** descriptive statistical techniques that can be used to summarize characteristics of quantitative data collected in a research study.   [2Mks]