



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND ACTUARIAL SCIENCE**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION**

**ARTS, SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EDUCATION SCIENCE**

**1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR 2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**REGULAR (MAIN)**

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**COURSE CODE: SMA 105**

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION PROBABILITY AND DISTRIBUTION THEORY**

**EXAM VENUE:**

**STREAM: (B.e.d ARTS, SPECIAL ed. &  
SCIENCE)**

**DATE:**

**EXAM SESSION:**

**TIME: 2.00 HOURS**

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**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.**

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) In 20 independent trials, the probability of observing a certain outcome is 0.05 per trial. Find the probability of observing this trial outcome at least once. (3 Marks)
- b) In a telephone sub network, the probability that a telephone is out of order per day is 0.0003. What is the probability of having 5 failures per day? (3 Marks)
- c) The weekly demand for bread, in thousands of loaves from a local chain efficiency stores is a continuous random variable  $X$  having a probability density function given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3(x-1) & 1 < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find the mean and variance of  $X$ . (5 Marks)

- d) Show that the covariance of two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  with means  $\mu_X$  and  $\mu_Y$  respectively is given by

$$\sigma_{XY} = E(XY) - \mu_X \mu_Y \quad (4 \text{ Marks})$$

- e) Define the following terms as used in probability distributions. (6 Marks)
- Uniform random variable
  - Exponential random variable
  - Gamma random variable

- f) Let  $X$  be a random variable with density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2/3 & -1 < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Find the expected value of  $g(x) = 4x + 3$  (3 Marks)

- g) Compute the mean and variance of the following rectangular distribution (6 Marks)

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & a < x < b \quad -\infty < a < b < \infty \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Suppose that the probability of a successful outcome in an experiment is given as 0.4. If 15 independent trials of the experiment are made, determine if;
- i.  $p(X = 3)$
  - ii.  $p(6 \leq X \leq 9)$
  - iii.  $p(X \geq 10)$

Given that  $X$  is the number of successes. (10 Marks)

- b) The fraction  $X$  of male runners and the fraction  $Y$  of female runners who compete in marathon races are described by the joint density function ;

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 8xy & 0 \leq y \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} . \text{ Find the covariance of } X \text{ and } Y . \quad (10 \text{ Marks})$$

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) From a well –shuffled pack of 52 cards, 3 cards are taken at random. Find the probability of getting; (10 Marks)
- i. at least 2 red cards .
  - ii. at best 2 red cards.
  - iii. no red cards.
- b) Given a function of continuous random variable  $X$  as follows  $f(x) = kx(1 - x)$  with range space  $R : \{X : 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ . Is  $f(x)$  a density function? If so, find  $P(A_1)$  where  $A_1 = \{X : 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{3}\}$  and  $P(A_2)$  where  $A_2 = \{X : x \geq \frac{1}{2}\}$  (10 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Two regular tetrahedral are used in an experiment to obtain pairs of values  $(x_i, y_i)$ . The values on the face of the tetrahedral are numbered 1,2,3,4 and  $x_i$  is the value on the phase looking down on the tetrahedron A,  $y_i$  on the tetrahedron B or A, the larger of the two.

Possible pairs  $(x_i, y_i)$  and corresponding probabilities are listed below

$(X, Y)$	(1,1)	(1,2)	(1,3)	(1,4)	(2,2)	(2,3)	(2,4)	(3,3)	(3,4)	(4,4)
$f(x, y)$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{2}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{3}{16}$	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{4}{16}$

Obtain

- i.  $F(2,3)$
- ii.  $f_Y(y) \quad \forall y$
- iii.  $f_X(x) \quad \forall x$

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) A random variable  $X$  has a density function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & \lambda > 0; x \geq 0 \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$ . Find
- i.  $E(X)$
  - ii.  $\text{var}(X)$  (10 Marks)
- b) The probability mass function of a geometric distribution is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} pq^x & x = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Compute the mean and variance of this geometric distribution. (10 Marks)