



JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

2ND YEAR 1ST SEMESTER 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

KISUMU CAMPUS

COURSE CODE:

HCB 1212

COURSE TITLE:

CRITICAL THINKING AND SCIENTIFIC WRITING

EXAM VENUE:

STREAM: BSc Public/ Comm. Hlth & Dev

DATE: 14/1/25

EXAM SESSION: 15-17.00 HRS

TIME: 2.00 HOURS

Instructions:

- 1. Answer all the questions in Section A and 2 questions in Section B.**
- 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.**



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Answer all questions in section A – 30 marks.

1. Describe briefly the key issues you would consider when reading a published article *[3marks]*
2. Compare and contrast between the terms provided below.
 - a. Claim versus arguments. *[3 marks]*
 - b. Inferences versus judgements. *[3 marks]*
 - c. Opinions versus facts. *[3 marks]*
 - d. Bibliography and List of references *[3 marks]*
4. Describe the parts of good abstract. *[3 marks]*
5. Explain the value of learning critical thinking in a public health course. *[3 marks]*
6. Explain the significance of using Bloom's taxonomy in public health settings. 3marks
7. a). Define the term "logical fallacy. *[2 marks]*
b). Explain the difference between **formal** and **informal** fallacies, providing examples of each type. *[4 marks]*

SECTION B – 40 MARKS

Answer any two questions – 20 marks each

1. Concerning logical fallacies
 - a. Evaluate the impact of logical fallacies on public discourse. *[6 marks]*
 - b. Discuss how fallacies can affect public opinion, policy-making, and individual decision-making. *[8marks]*
 - c. Describe the strategies for identifying and avoiding fallacies in arguments. *[6marks]*
2. Critical thinking plays a vital role in effectively addressing conflicts and finding constructive solutions
 - a. Define critical thinking and explain its relevance to conflict resolution. *[4marks]*
 - b. Discuss THREE critical thinking skills that are particularly important in managing conflicts. *[6marks]*



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- c. Evaluate the potential challenges that might arise when applying critical thinking to conflict resolution. *[5marks]*
- d. Discuss strategies to overcome these challenges and ensure that the resolution process remains constructive and effective. *[5marks]*
3. In the study of logic and critical thinking, understanding claims and arguments is essential for effective reasoning and persuasive communication.
- i. Define the terms "claim" and "argument", giving examples to illustrate the difference. *[4marks]*
- b. Explain the components of an argument, including premises and conclusions. *[4marks]*
- c. Discuss the importance of distinguishing between strong and weak arguments in everyday discourse, considering the implications of effective argumentation for decision-making, public opinion, and social issues. *[6marks]*
- d. Highlight strategies for recognizing and constructing valid arguments. *[6marks]*
4. During literature review in a writing assignment, a systematic and rigorous search of literature is necessary.
- a. Describe clearly the steps of conducting a literature search. *[10 marks]*
- b. Describe some of the steps necessary to minimize publication bias. *[6marks]*
- c. Highlight the factors that impact the validity and applicability of the findings in published literature *[4marks]*.