



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 - Meru-Kenya.

Tel: +254(0) 799 529 958, +254(0) 799 529 959, +254 (0)712 524 293

Website: [www.must.ac.ke](http://www.must.ac.ke) Email: [info@mucst.ac.ke](mailto:info@mucst.ac.ke)

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## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

**EMP 8100: ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION**

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**DATE: APRIL 2024**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer Question one and any other THREE questions.

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### QUESTION ONE (24 MARKS)

The challenge of low pupils completion rate in primary schools has become an issue of concern in one of the counties in ASAL regions in Kenya. What is not clear, however is whether the challenge is affecting all school going children in the country irrespective of gender and grade. You have been requested by the Ministry of Education to carry out the study with a view to addressing the gaps identified in this write up.

- a. State the problem statement of the study. (4marks)
- b. Formulate two objectives that will guide the study. (4marks)
- c. Develop two null hypotheses which you will test so as to achieve the objectives of your study. (4marks)
- d. Explain how you will sample the schools that will be involved in the study. (4marks)
- e. Giving one justification in each case, state two categories of respondents you would involve in the sampled schools. (4marks)
- f. State two inferential statistics you would use to test the two hypotheses formulated in (c) above.

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### QUESTION TWO(12MARKS)

- a. Explain three major objectives of educational research. (6marks)
- b. Discuss three points you would present in an intellectual debate titled "Distinguishing features between quantitative and qualitative research" (6marks)



### **QUESTION THREE(12MARKS)**

- a. Advance three justification for sharing research findings . (6marks)
- b. Discuss three ways in which you will share your Doctoral research findings . (6marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR(12MARKS)**

- a Explain three characteristics that distinguish mixed — methods research from other research approaches. (6marks)
- b Discuss three justifications you would advance for the choice of mixed — method research design when conducting your Doctorial research. (6marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE(12MARKS)**

- a ' Research questions have domino effect on the rest of a study ( Lipwoski,2008)". Advance three arguments in support of this statement. (6marks)
- b Discuss three criteria you would apply when assessing the quality of a research question. (6marks)

