



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

THIRD YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR  
OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

### HPP 3311: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

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**INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.**

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#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Outline five fundamental principles of conducting health research (5 Marks)
- b) Discuss the characteristics of a good research problem (5 Marks)
- c) Discuss the role of literature review in research proposal development (5 Marks)
- d) Outline the ways which ethical considerations impact research methodology (5 Marks)
- e) Data collection depends on effective collection instruments' discuss three types of research instruments and explain their applicability in health research (5 Marks)
- f) Identify three sampling methods and explain the characteristics of a good sample design (5 Marks)

#### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Explain the process of conducting health research (20 Marks)



MUST is ISO 9001:2015 and



ISO/IEC 27001:2013 CERTIFIED

### **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the importance of a well-defined research problem in proposal development.

(20 Marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Read the following case study and answer the questions that follow

Cancer in Africa is an emerging health problem. In Kenya it ranks third as a cause of death after infectious and cardiovascular diseases. Nearly 31% of the total cancer burden in sub-Saharan Africa is attributable to infectious agents and environmental contamination. Inadequate knowledge, attitude and practices were also linked to cancer causation. Information on cancer burden is scanty in Kenya. This study is aimed to provide comprehensive hospital based data to inform policies. A cross-sectional retrospective survey was conducted at Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) from January 2008 to December 2012. Data was obtained from the patients files and the study was approved by the KNH/University of Nairobi and MTRH Ethics and Research Committees.

- a) Formulate a suitable title for this research (1 Mark)
- b) Identify the type of research this case fall under (2 Marks)
- c) State and briefly explain three main types of variables for this research, give an example for each (9 Marks)
- d) Construct a conceptual framework for such a research (5 Marks)
- e) Literature review is an important component of the research process. Discuss with examples its relationship to the conceptual/theoretical framework of the current research (5 Marks)
- f) State five qualities of a good research. (5 Marks)
- g) List three referencing styles that one can use to cite their work. (3 Marks)

