MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya.
Tel: +254 (0)799529958, +254 (0)799529959, +254 (0)712524293
Website: www.must.ac.ke Email: info@must.ac.ke

University Examinations 2024/2025

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

HPE/HPP 8111: RESEARCH METHODS

DATE: DECEMBER 2024   **TIME: 2 HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS:

 Answer Question one and any other two Questions

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

a) What is research methodology and why is it critical in public health/Epidemiological research?
(5marks)

b) Giving relevant examples, compare and contrast qualitative and quantitative research designs applied in Public health and Epidemiological research? (5marks)

c) Describe the concept of "negative findings" in research and why are they important, and how should researchers report them? (5marks)

d) Describe the concepts of validity and reliability in the context of public health and Epidemiological measurement tools? (5marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

a) Identify and discuss the main types of common public health and epidemiological study designs., discussing their strengths and weaknesses? (10marks)

b) Discuss how various sampling techniques used in public health research and epidemiology studies influence the reliability and validity of study findings? (10marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

a) Compare and contrast qualitative and quantitative research methodologies in public health/Epidemiology and show how each approach contributes to evidence-based practice.
(10marks)

b) Giving examples of research questions, develop the best suited for qualitative methods versus quantitative methods, discussing the importance of mixed-methods approaches in addressing complex public health issues? (10marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

a) Discuss and Propose a hypothetical Epidemiological or Public health study addressing a current health issue, detailing your chosen methodology, study design, and data collection strategies?

(20marks)