

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
PROCUREMENT AND LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT**

BPLM 450: RESEARCH METHODS

STREAMS:

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: TUESDAY 23/03/2021

2.30 P.M – 4.30 P.M

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer question one and any other two questions

QUESTION ONE

- (a) A research has considered the following research topic. “Supply chain management and organizational efficiency of Tea factories in Kenya”. Formulate the general research objective, present a research question, state the null hypothesis and identify the dependent variable and independent variable of the study. [6 marks]
- (b) Using practical illustrations, differentiate between regression analysis and correlational analysis. [6 marks]
- (c) Describe research design and distinguish between cross sectional and longitudinal research design. [6 marks]
- (d) Briefly describe any four attributes of a good sample. [6 marks]
- (e) Discuss any four reasons for preparing a research proposal. [6 marks]

QUESTION TWO

- (a) Briefly explain sampling as adopted in research and using illustrations, distinguish between cluster sampling and stratified sampling. [10 marks]
- (b) What is meant by operational definition and why is it necessary? Identify a concept of interest in your area of study and depict its operational definition. [10 marks]

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Critically discuss the contents of the methodology section of a proposed study. [10 marks]
- (b) There are several ethical issues to consider in relation to the various stakeholders in a research activity. Describe any five ethical issues that are considered in relation to participants as a key category of research stakeholders. [10 marks]

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Explain any four factors that must be examined when deciding on an appropriate data collection method for a research project. [8 marks]
- (b) Describe any six reasons for reviewing literature in the research process. [12 marks]
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