



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

COURSE CODE: PSA 1207

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH
METHODOLOGY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

DATE: 24TH APRIL 2018

TIME: 0830 - 1030HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- *Answer question ONE (compulsory) and any other TWO questions.*
- *Question one carries 30 marks*
- *All other questions carry 20 marks*

QUESTION ONE

“Jigger Menace: More than 100 people from Mbara village in West Pokot county have been infected by jiggers. Health officers from the county noted the outbreak in the area in the past two weeks. Cabinet Secretary for Health in the county Catherine Mukenyang’ has called upon all health players and well wishers to assist in preventing the infection from spreading to other regions”. Assuming that you are a researcher interested in studying this phenomenon:

- a) Formulate a research topic that is in line with the above statement. **(5 marks)**
- b) Come up with a “problem statement” to justify your proposed research. **(10 marks)**
- c) Design a broad goal, objectives and key hypothesis for this research. **(15 marks)**

QUESTION TWO

“Man has always been interested in the facts and events that have been taking place around him. The method of science is perhaps the most commonly used method of knowing or fixing beliefs.” In line with this statement:

- a) Explain the meaning of the word science. **(5 marks)**
- b) Citing salient examples, describe to what extent the method of science can be useful in studying the problems of society? **(5 marks)**
- c) Giving examples, discuss relevant aims of science. How is science relevant to the present day society **(10 marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Break down the key points a researcher need to put into consideration before embarking on a face – to face Interviews. **(8 marks)**
- b) Advise how to conduct focus group interviews. **(7 marks)**
- c) Citing examples, compare and contrast the effectiveness of using face - to - face and group interviews as tools of data collection. **(5 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

“Methods and tools of data collection will vary depending upon the nature of study.” In light of this statement:

- a) Elaborate the host of sources of data that a researcher can find handy **(5 marks)**
- b) Illustrate different tools that social work researchers employ in collecting data. **(15 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Evaluate the sampling concept. What is its significance and beauty of Sampling? **(10 marks)**
- b) Relate the sampling techniques to different situations that warrant their use. **(10 marks)**

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