



“Investing in Africa’s Future”

COLLEGE OF HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**NESN200: RESEARCH METHODS AND METHODOLOGY IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER 2024

LECTURER: MR. G. P. MITI

DURATION: 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer **Question 1** in **Section A** and any **THREE** questions of your choice from **Section B**.

Section A Answer all Questions in this section

Question 1 [40 marks]

- a. Distinguish between the following;
 - i. Quantitative data and Qualitative data [4 marks]
 - ii. Variables and Attributes [4 marks]
 - iii. Population and sample [6 marks]
 - iv. Stratified sampling and cluster sampling. [6 marks]
- b. What are the main issues that should receive the attention of the research in formulating a research problem? [10 marks]
- c. Discuss the possible sources of research ideas. [10 marks]

Section B Answer any three questions from this section

Question 2 [20 marks]

Discuss the key considerations that should be taken into account in selecting a research topic. [20 marks]

Question 3 [20 marks]

- a. Give a detailed description of qualitative research. [10 marks]
- b. Outline the strengths and weaknesses of qualitative research. [10 marks]

Question 4 [20 marks]

You have been tasked to carry out research on the knowledge, attitudes and practices of Africa University students regarding management of litter on their Mutare campus.

- a. What research approach would you use **and** why. [10 marks]
- b. Describe in detail how you would sample the research participants from among the student body for this research. [10 marks]

Question 5 [20 marks]

- a. Explain the importance of research ethics in research. [5 marks]
- b. Give detailed descriptions of each of the following research ethical principles:
 - i. Respect for persons [5 marks]
 - ii. Justice [5 marks]
 - iii. Beneficence/non maleficence [5 marks]

Question 6 [20 marks]

Discuss the importance of literature review in carrying out effective research. [20]