



"Investing in Africa's Future"

COLLEGE OF HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES

MSC CROP PRODUCTION WEEKEND PROGRAMME

REM 500 RESEARCH METHODS

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

LECTURER: E. CHIKAKA

DURATION: 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer **ALL** Questions in **SECTION A** and **ANY 3** Question from **SECTION B**

The mark allocation for each question is indicated at the end of the question

Credit will be given for logical, systematic and neat presentations.

SECTION A

QUESTION 1

- What is research? [2]
What are the reasons for doing research? [4]
List the main types of research [4]

QUESTION 2

- Outline the steps you take in the research process [10]

QUESTION 3

- What is a research design? What is the purpose of the research design when carrying out research? [10]

QUESTION 4

- Compare and contrast qualitative and quantitative research approaches [10]

SECTION B

ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 5

Think of researchable topic and write a 2-page draft proposal covering briefly the points noted below.

- a. Title
- b. Introduction
- c. Background
- d. Statement of the Problem
- e. Justification
- f. Purpose of the study/Broad Objective
- g. Specific Objectives
- h. Research Questions/ Hypothesis
- i. Budget
- j. Timeline

[20]



QUESTION 6

What are the major characteristics of experimental design? [10]

Compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of experimental designs [10]

QUESTION 7

What are the types of data that a researcher can collect? [10]

Why is it necessary to know the type of data that you collect? [10]

QUESTION 8

a. In research methods, the collection of data from the population is central to the generation of a solution to the research question that is posed. Variability of data is an issue that is important to consider. Explain the terms data, variable and population as used in research methods.[6]

b. Explain the terms randomisation, experiment, experimental error, treatment and replication as used in research

[10]

c. The following data were obtained from a survey:

	Type of Draught Animals Owned			
	Cattle	Donkey	Mules	None
No. of Farmers Owning Draught Animals	20	9	4	158

(i) What is the appropriate measure of central tendency for this data? [1]

(ii) What is the variable that was being measured? [1]

(iii) How would you present these results graphically? Draw the graph. [2]