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FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION

ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/2014

DEGREE FOR MASTER OF EDUCATION

COURSE CODE: EPM 811:

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION – 1

DATE: 14TH MAY, 2014

TIME: 3:00P.M. – 6:00P.M.

INSTRUCTION

Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions of your choice

1. a) Briefly discuss the following types of research (4mks)
 - i) Basic research
 - ii) Applied research
- b) Explain the important steps that researchers go through in discovering and defining research problems. (6mks)
- c) Discuss factors the researcher should consider when constructing a questionnaire (8mks)
- d) Research proposal is a very important document in any research work. Critically discuss the content of a proposal using a title of your choice. (12mks)
2. Education research is a function of management. It should be used in institutions to assist educational managers in solving management related problems and in making strategic decisions. Discuss educational management problems in education institutions that requires urgent attention. (15mks)
3. a) Briefly explain the rationale of interviews as data collection instruments. (6mks)
- b) Contemporary researchers have argued that the use of mixed methods is holistic and gives a real picture of the phenomenon being studied. Discuss. (9mks)
4. a) Distinguish between Research paradigms and research methods. (6mks)
- b) One of the most important considerations that a researcher should always keep in mind is to observe ethical issues while undertaking research. Discuss the various ethical issues that you would advice researchers to observe. (9mks)
5. General election opinion polls in Kenya have overtime failed to accurately predict the outcome of elections. As an expert in Scientific Research, discuss what could be the research errors committed by pollsters and how can they be remedied to ensure that the results in future are close to the reality as possible. (15mks)