



KIBABII UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR
MASTERS OF EDUCATION IN CURRICULUM AND
INSTRUCTION
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE CODE: CUP8240

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH PROPOSAL WRITING

DATE: 23/4/25

TIME: 2:00-5:00PM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- 1) Answer four questions: Question one (Compulsory) and any other three
- 2) Ensure clarity and depth in your responses.

TIME: 3 Hours

Kibabii University observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating.

This paper consists of 3 printed pages. Please turn over

QUESTION ONE (MANDATORY – 15 MARKS)

- a) Compare and contrast qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method research proposals. Provide examples of research topics suitable for each approach. *(2 marks)*
- b) Given a research topic of your choice, assess its feasibility, relevance, and originality. Justify your selection based on academic criteria. *(2 marks)*
- c) Formulate a research problem, main objective, two specific objectives, and corresponding research questions for a selected study in curriculum and instruction. *(2 marks)*
- d) Differentiate between a theoretical framework and a conceptual framework. Provide an example of each and justify their relevance to a research study. *(2 marks)*
- e) Conduct a critical synthesis of literature on a selected research topic. Identify key gaps that justify further study. *(2 marks)*
- f) Propose an appropriate research design and data collection method for a study investigating the impact of digital learning tools on student performance. Justify your choices. *(2 marks)*
- g) Outline the key elements of a research proposal defense. *(3 marks)*

QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)

1. Critically evaluate three factors to consider when selecting a research topic in curriculum and instruction. Provide examples. *(5 marks)*
2. Analyze a poorly formulated research problem statement and improve it by applying principles of clarity, specificity, and significance. *(5 marks)*
3. Justify the importance of aligning a research problem with national education policies and global trends. Provide relevant examples. *(5 marks)*

QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)

1. Using an example, differentiate between deductive and inductive approaches in selecting a theoretical framework for a study. *(5 marks)*
2. Critically examine the process of designing a conceptual framework. Use a research problem in STEM education to illustrate key components. *(5 marks)*
3. Discuss the relevance of multiple theoretical perspectives in research. What are the advantages and challenges of using multiple frameworks? *(5 marks)*

QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)

1. Compare and contrast three different research designs (experimental, survey, and case study) and discuss their applicability in educational research. (5 marks)
2. Develop a data collection plan for a study investigating the impact of teacher professional development on student engagement. Discuss how you will ensure validity and reliability. (5 marks)
3. Analyze ethical considerations in conducting research involving human participants. Provide examples of ethical dilemmas and how they can be addressed. (5 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (15 MARKS)

1. Critically evaluate the logical sequencing of a research proposal. Discuss how coherence and clarity impact its acceptability. (5 marks)
2. Develop a checklist for preparing an effective research proposal defense presentation. Justify the inclusion of each item. (5 marks)
3. Examine **three** common challenges faced by students during proposal defense and propose strategies to overcome them. (5 marks)