The Management University of Africa

Sponsored by the Kenya Institute of Management

POST GRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP/ SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (SADS)

DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES/ DEGREE OF MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION/ EXECUTIVE MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

MBA 512/ MDS 507/ EMBA 505: BUSINESS RESEARCH METHODS/ RESERCH METHODOLOGY

DATE: 31ST JULY 2026

DURATION: 3 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 60

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **FOUR (4)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **TWO** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **30 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.

7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow

UNIVERSITIY EDUCATION IN KENYA

Student dropout has become a major challenge in both public and private universities in Kenya. High dropout rates affect students, families, universities, and the country's economic development because many students fail to complete their degrees and enter the workforce with the qualifications they intended to earn. In recent years there has been a worrying trend of increase in students drop out and decline in academic performance in informal settlement areas. “Education for all” monitoring report observes that one of the planet earth’s most critical challenges is providing universal, quality education. While there are widespread recognition and solid evidence of importance of education to both individual well-being and national development, it is paradoxical that over one million student’s worldwide dropout of university and do not study to complete university education thus increasing wastage ratio.

These students drop out before attaining adequate knowledge, skills, and attitudes to enable them participate in economic, social and political development. Many governments all over the world are thus concerned by this worrying trend. Many have introduced free and compulsory university education to ensure they achieve millennium development goal of education for all. The government of Kenya enacted constitutional 2010 which made education for all fundamental right. However, it has been noted that student’s dropout is high due to what is perceived to be lack of economic relevance of staying in university. The rapid increase in cases of students drop out suggests crisis that calls for concerted efforts from all educational stakeholders to address.

Secondary school girl dropout is a critical issue in that for all Kenyan children; education is the most important insurance against poverty and remains the most important source of hope and key to life. In Uganda 10% of girls enrolled at lower level of secondary education drop out of school hence only 90% study to complete university of education. This calls for concerted efforts from all education stakeholders to address and resolve the issues of poverty in education if we are to achieve education for all.

All educational stakeholders including international community, Central governments, religious organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations need to come together and address the issues of university dropout among students. In Kenya, student's dropout is so high that only 50% of students enrolled in university one stay in school to complete secondary education. Causes of students' dropout emanate from family background, community factors and school factors.

Required:

a) Referring to the article above, construct b) c) d) any possible appropriate research topic containing independent, moderating and dependent variables that researcher may use to investigate the concerns raised in the article. **(5 marks)**

b) Descriptive research design is commonly used in social science studies. Distinguish the three main descriptive designs and explain the most appropriate one for the study identified in question 1 (a) above. **(10 marks)**

c) Construct a conceptual model to show the diagrammatically possible relationships among the variables identified in question 1 (a) above. Under each main variable, identify and indicate in the diagram, at least four indicators. **(10 marks)**

d) Propose and justify your choice of relevant data sources and types that you would rely on when carrying out the study in 1 (a) above and discuss two

types of instruments you would use to collect the data and why

(5 marks)

QUESTION TWO

a) Scientific research begins with a single carefully observed event and progresses ultimately to the formulation of theories and laws. Examine at least Five (5) main theories that are applicable in research.
(5 marks)

b) Enumerate types/ approaches of data analysis.
(5 marks)

c) To protect the participants in any research, the investigators are required to put into consideration the ethical issues. Giving practical examples, discuss the relevance of the statement pointing out the main ethical issues in research**.**

(5 marks)

QUESTION THREE

a) Describe types of probability sampling techniques and give examples.
(10 marks)

b) Literature review is the systematic identification, location and analysis of documents containing information related to the research problem being investigated. Elaborate purpose of literature review in research.
(5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

a) Discuss the characteristics of a good sample design. **(7 marks)**

b) Citing practical examples in each case, differentiate theoretical literature and empirical literature

(8 marks)