



**REFORMED CHURCH UNIVERSITY**

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**FACULTY OF COMMERCE**  
**BACHELOR OF COMMERCE HONOURS DEGREE IN**  
**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**RESEARCH METHODS & STATISTICS**

**HPAD 208**

**PART 2 SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATION**

**TOTAL MARKS [100]**

**DATE: OCTOBER 2024**

**Time: 3 Hours**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This paper has *five (5)* questions
2. Answer question 1 and *any two other (2) questions*
3. Question 1 carries 40 marks and the rest of the questions carry 30 marks
4. Start each question on a new page
5. Candidates may use non-programmable, noiseless and cordless calculators.
6. Candidates are provided with tables of statistical formulae.

1. Discuss the essence of any five non probability sampling techniques in doing research in your area of study. (40 marks)

2. The increasingly complex nature of our society has focused attention on the use of research in solving operational problems. Identify and explain ten characteristics of good research. (30marks)

3. Compare and contrast the following terms as they are applied and used in research:

a. Validity and reliability (6 marks)

b. Triangulation and pilot study (6 marks)

c. Delimitation and limitations of the study (6 marks)

d. Census and sample (6marks)

e. Quantitative and qualitative (6 marks)

4. Proposal writing is one of the important stages in the research process. A student wishing to carry out research is first required to submit a research proposal which will be assessed and approved by the relevant academic department before embarking on the actual study (Saunders et al, 2015).

a) In writing a research proposal, there are definite sections you have to write. Explain what you are required to write in any five sections of a research proposal (15 marks)

b) Examine the purpose of writing a research proposal. (15 marks)

5. Research process involves identifiable steps that researchers usually follow.

a) Discuss the steps (15 marks)

b) Identify characteristics of good research topic (15 marks)

6. a) Explain any three important factors to consider in designing a questionnaire. (15 marks)

b) Discuss the pros and cons of a questionnaire survey. (15 marks)

**END OF PAPER**