



University of Fort Hare  
*Together in Excellence*

## ALICE CAMPUS

SOC 311

DEGREE EXAMINATIONS  
EXTERNALISED EXAMINATION FOR JUNE 2023

RESEARCH PRACTICE IN SOCIOLOGY

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Time: 3 Hours

Marks: 100

Subject: Research Practice in Sociology

This paper consists of 3 pages including the cover page

Internal Examiners:  
Mr. James Nyamahono

External Examiner:  
Prof. Cunningham

Instructions:

ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

ALL QUESTIONS ARE EQUAL IN VALUE

Please remember that it is in your interest to write legibly

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### **QUESTION 1**

Using a research problem of your choice, discuss the main steps to be followed in conducting social research. (33 $\frac{1}{3}$  Marks).

### **QUESTION 2**

Literature review lays the foundation for the study to be conducted and provides a precise but informative assessment of the key already existing ideas and research on a particular topic and then makes a case for why there is a need for a new study.

Based on what you have learnt, critically discuss the importance of literature review. Your discussion should also focus on the different aspects/sections/parts that a literature chapter should have. (33 $\frac{1}{3}$  Marks).

### **QUESTION 3**

The research design is architecture of the entire research project. All research projects and studies are explicitly or implicitly based on some design, and it is generally the first part of this section of the report.

Based on the above statement, describe and explain any five (5) research designs. In your discussion, justify the importance of each research design using appropriate examples (33 $\frac{1}{3}$  Marks).

### **QUESTION 4**

There are two main research methods, namely; quantitative research methodology and qualitative research methodology. Provide differences between these two based on any five (5) aspects (33 $\frac{1}{3}$  Marks).

**QUESTION 5**

What philosophy of science informs qualitative research approach and quantitative research approaches? Explain these philosophies with the aid of examples (33½ Marks).

**QUESTION 6**

What are the data collection tools associated with qualitative and quantitative research? In your discussion, include a detailed analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of these data collection tools. (33½ Marks).

**\*\*\*\*\*End of the examination\*\*\*\*\***