



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
Plot 91, Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikiwe Express Way, Jabi - Abuja
FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
2020_2 EXAMINATION...

COURSE CODE: FMS825
COURSE TITLE: Research Methods
CREDIT UNIT: 3

INSTRUCTION: 1. Indicate your Matriculation Number clearly
2. Attempt question one (1) and any other three (3) questions; four questions in all
3. Question one (1) is compulsory and carries 25 marks, while the other questions carry 15 marks each.
4. Present all your points in a coherent and orderly Manner

TIME ALLOWED: 2½ Hours

Question 1

- (a) In which class of research is the use of variables most applicable? Succinctly describe the role variables play in research; and explain the difference among predictor, criterion and test variables.
- (b) The following are responses of individuals in a sample regarding the link between employment status and educational qualification:

Educational level/Employment Status	Employed	Unemployed
SSCE	25	34
Bachelor's Degree	45	28

- i. Provide a clear statement of hypothesis (1) Null Hypothesis (2) Alternative Hypothesis to capture the information in table above.
- ii. What type of technique will be most appropriate for testing the hypothesis?
- iii. Using your answer in (b), test at five percent (5%) level whether a significant difference exist between secondary and university education.

Question 2

- (a) Identify and explain four basic operations involved in a scientific research process.
- (b) When is a relationship between two variables said to be non-spurious? How can spuriousness in relationship be eliminated?
- (c) Briefly explain the relevance of a proposal in research. Identify and briefly explain five main factors that can enhance proposal acceptance.

Question 3

- (a) What is the link between a research problem and a topic? State and briefly explain the main sources of: (i) researchable problems, (ii) research topics.
- (b) Clearly identify and explain the basic constituents of the following research topics
- i. *Impact of Board Size on Shareholder Value in Nigerian Companies*
 - ii. *Employee Productivity and Corporate Performance in the Tourism Industry in Nigeria: The Intervening Impact of COVID-19*
 - iii. *Impact of Non-monetary remunerations on Employee Turnover in Private Universities in Nigeria*
 - iv. *ASUU Strike and the Quality of University Graduates in Nigeria.*

Question 4

- (a) What significant place does research design occupy in empirical studies? Briefly explain four of the major types of research design known to you.
- (b) Succinctly explain the following concepts :
- i. Theorizing and Modelling
 - ii. Dichotomous and Non-dichotomous variables
 - iii. Experimental Mortality and Instrumentation
 - iv. Predictive Validity and Concurrent Validity
 - v. Case Study Research Design and Experimental Research Design

For each of the above, illustrate your answer using an example

Question 5

- (a) Identify and explain the different types of causal relationship found between variables?
- (b) Succinctly discuss five ethical issues inherent in research and the associated strategies for mitigating them.
- (c) What strategies are available to ensure that the style and layout as well as the structure and contents of a research report are in conformity with a standard scientific research report?