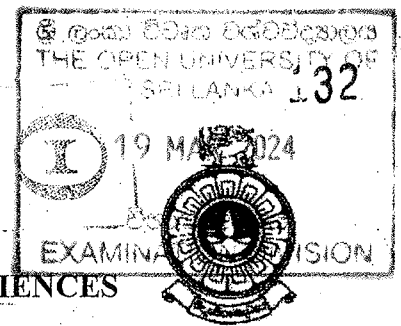


THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES



ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024 – SEMESTER I

BACHELOR OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES (BMLS) HONOURS

MDU5308 – RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

FINAL EXAMINATION

DURATION: 03 HOURS

DATE: 19th March 2024

TIME: 01.30 PM – 04.30 PM

INDEX NO:

Part B: Structured Essay Questions (40 Marks)

Q1. The research process consists of a series of methodical steps to achieve specific research questions or problems.

1.1 List **three (03)** main phases in a research process. (03 Marks)

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

1.2 State **two (02)** basic methods used to write a problem statement in research. (03 Marks)

- i.
- ii.

1.3 Briefly describe primary sources where you can find a research problem. (04 Marks)

[illegible]

(Total 10 Marks)

(Total 10 Marks)

Q3. A B.MLS student planned to conduct a research study to investigate the prevalence of a bloodborne pathogen among healthcare workers in ABC Hospital. The student has planned to collect data from healthcare workers across different departments.

3.1 Determine the following in relation to the above-mentioned study. (05 Marks)

- i. Population:
- ii. Sample:
- iii. Sampling technique:
- iv. General Objective/s:
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b) State the importance of having specific objectives in a research study. (05 Marks)

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(Total 10 Marks)

Q4. Data analysis plays an important role in any research study, serving as the foundation for interpreting findings, identifying patterns, and making informed decisions based on empirical evidence, thereby ensuring the reliability and validity of research outcomes. SPSS is currently being used worldwide.

4.1 List **four (04)** statistical programs other than SPSS. (02 Marks)

- i.
- ii.
- iii.
- iv.

4.2 Mention the main difference between the “descriptive statistics” and “inferential statistics”.
(03 Marks)

4.3 Briefly describe the difference between the “String” and “Numeric” data types used in SPSS software. (05 Marks)

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(Total 10 Marks)

Part C: Essay Questions. (30 Marks)

Q1. Explain the purpose of obtaining informed written consent from the research participants.
(15 Marks)

Q2. Describe the importance of writing a research report.
(15 Marks)

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