

DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA
FIRST SEMESTER 2016/2017 SESSION EXAMINATIONS
COURSE: QTS 417: RESEARCH METHODS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Any three (3) Questions Time allowed: 2 Hours

Question 1

Research is considered an important tool for advancing knowledge, for promoting progress and for enabling man relate more effectively with his environment. Outline the following:

- the **objectives** for carrying out research.
- the variety of possible kinds of *outcomes* that can be generated from research.
- four (4) ways that research can be *classified*.
- some of the **basic problems** confronting research in Nigeria.

Question 2

It is essential that a researcher has thorough knowledge of the basic methods of research in order to choose a primary research method to be used in solving a particular research problem. Outline and briefly discuss the following:

- four (4) types of descriptive research method.
- four (4) types of variables used in experimental research method.
- three (3) main types of literature sources, highlighting examples of each.
- the main purposes for conducting literature search as part of a research process.

Question 3

A research approach is a way of describing how a researcher goes about doing the research, unfolding a particular style and employing different techniques for collecting data. It is also concerned with the types of evidence to be collected and the sources of such evidence, as well as the process of interpretation used to obtain satisfactory answers to questions being posed. Discuss the following:

- the common approaches used for addressing Quantity Surveying-related research problems.
- two (2) techniques for eliciting data and information from respondents, highlighting their main advantages and disadvantages.
- the distinction between "citation", "reference" and "bibliography" with respect to acknowledging sources of research information.

Question 4

One of the most difficult aspects of research planning commonly encountered by students/researchers in their first approach to research work is the selection of a suitable topic. Outline the following:

- the essential guidelines for selecting a research topic.
- five (5) key decisions about the strategy and methods to be used that are usually taken before any research begins.
- the components of a research proposal.
- various forms of plagiarism.