

Eastern University, Sri Lanka  
Faculty of Agriculture

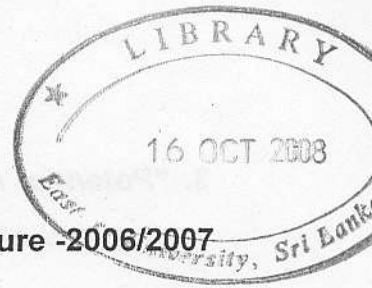
Final Year / First Semester Examination in Agriculture -2006/2007

(June 2008) (Proper / Repeat)

AEC 4101 – Social Research Methodology

Answer Any Four Questions only

Time Allowed: 02 Hours



1. *“Research can be a very simple activity designed to provide answers to very simple questions relating to day-to-day activities. On the other hand, research procedures can also be employed to formulate intricate theories or laws that govern our lives”*

- (a) What do you understand by the term “Research”?
- (b) Distinguish between “Pure Research” and “Applied Research”?
- (c) Explain the Research Processes in social sciences

(25 Marks)

2. *“One of the essential preliminary tasks when you undertake a research study is to go through the existing literature in order to acquaint yourself with the available body of knowledge in your area of interest”*

- (a) Explain the functions of “Literature Review”?
- (b) How can you search for existing literature in your field of inquiry?
- (c) Briefly explain how can you develop a conceptual framework from a theoretical frame work?

(25 Marks)

3. ***“Potential research questions may occur to us on a regular basis, but the process of formulating them in a meaningful way is not at all an easy task.”***

- (a) What are the aspects of a Research Problem?
- (b) Which factors would influence you when you are selecting your research problem?
- (c) Illustrate how you formulate the research problem in your own research field

(25 Marks)

4. ***“An important consideration in the formulation of a research problem is the construction of hypotheses. Hypotheses bring clarity, specificity and direction to a research problem, but are not essential for a study”***

- (a) How do you define the term “Hypothesis”?
- (b) Briefly explain the different types of hypotheses using your own examples.
- (c) Explain the two types of errors in testing a hypothesis

(25 Marks)

5. ***“Study design is a part of the research design. It is the design of the study per se, whereas the research design also includes other details related to the carrying out of the study”***

- (a) Explain the “Pre-test/ Post-test study design”
- (b) Distinguish between “Experimental study design” and Non-Experimental study design”
- (c) What details should you include in a Research design?

(25 Marks)