

Eastern University, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Commerce and Management

Final Year- First Semester Examination in Commerce - 2009/2010

(Dec'2010)(Proper)

COM 4112 Research Methodology in Commerce

Answer All Questions

Time: 02 Hours

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- (a) Explain the meaning of the term "Research" citing some definitions given by scholars?
- (b) As a Financial Analyst, how do you apply "Research Methodology" as a technique for solving problems in the field of Capital and Money Market?
- (c) Explain the differences between "Descriptive Research" and "Exploratory Research"

(20 Marks)

2. (a) Explain the terms " Study Population" and " Subject Area" in relation to research problem.
- (b) State five well defined research problems in the field of Capital and Money Market.
- (c) Explain with examples how you would formulate "Research Questions" and "Research Objectives".

(20 Marks)

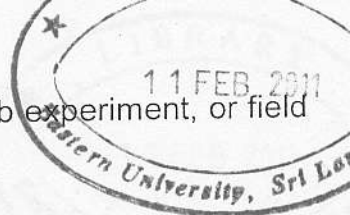
3. (a) Explain the process of "Conceptualization" and "Operationalization"
- (b) Explain the different types of variables which can be identified in a "Cause and Effect" study.
- (c) From the following case, identify a research problem, develop a conceptual frame work, and formulate at least four hypotheses:

Job Performance

A production manager is concerned about the low output levels of his employees. The articles that he read on job performance frequently mentioned four variables as important to job performance: skill required for the job, rewards, motivation, and satisfaction. In several of the articles it was also indicated that only if the rewards were valent (attractive) to the recipients did motivation, satisfaction, and job performance increase, not otherwise.

(20 Marks)

4. (a) Explain the functions of Research Design.
- (b) What do you understand by the term "Cross Sectional Study Design"?
- (c) A manager finds that off-the-job classroom training has a great impact on the productivity of the employees in her department. However, he also observed that employees over 60 years of age do not seem to derive much benefit and do not improve with such training. He would like to prove this through a research study.
- (i) Would this be a causal or a correlational study? Why?
- (ii) Is this an exploratory, descriptive, or hypothesis-testing (analytical or predictive) study? Why?



- (iii) What kind of a study would this be: field study, lab experiment, or field experiment? Why?
- (iv) What would be the unit of analysis? Why?
- (v) Would this be a cross-sectional or a longitudinal study? Why?

(20 Marks)

- Case study: Harley-Davidson
- (a) Examine the situations for which ' Quota Sampling method" is more appropriate for data collection.
 - (b) Briefly describe five methods of data presentation.
 - (c) Briefly state the three areas of statistics used for data analysis.

(20 Marks)