

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**  
**MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**STAGE I FIRST SEMESTER NOVEMBER 2012 EXAMINATIONS**

**ILI 5102: RESEARCH METHODS AND DATA ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**Instructions to candidates**

1. Answer any four (4) questions.
  2. Each question carries 25 marks.
  3. Importance is attached to accuracy, clarity of expression and legibility of handwriting.
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1. It is said that the processes and procedures in a particular research undertaking are influenced by the philosophical perspective underpinning that activity. With this statement in mind, give an explanation of how the two (2) main philosophical perspectives in research influence research in your area of specialisation. [25 marks]
  2. Identify any five (5) literature review types and explain their differences and importance in research. [25 marks]
  3. Discuss, with examples, the intervening variables that are likely to occur in a typical research setting in your field of specialisation. [25 marks]
  - 4.1 Choose any rating scale that you are familiar with and explain why you would use it in a particular research setting. [10 marks]
  - 4.2 With reference to 4.1 above, indicate whether you would opt to develop your own scale or use an existing one, showing the advantage and disadvantages of either option. [15 marks]
  5. Discuss, the most appropriate research design and sampling plan for a study in which NUST as a whole, including its Members of Council, acts as a unit of observation. [25 marks]
  6. Virtually all organisations, including archives and libraries, routinely collect statistics. With reference to this statement, explain why this is essential. In your answer, indicate aspects that you consider essential in gathering data, outlining the limitations of statistics in archival and library work. [25 marks]

***END OF PAPER***