UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

SUPP EXAM 2020

Examiner: Dr Georghiou

External Examiner: Prof Herman van der Elst

PTS3C11 / POL3CA3

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAM:

TIME: Starting time
MARKS: 100

INSTRUCTIONS

1. You have two minutes on the system to read these instructions before starting the test. After reading these instructions, you have 90 minutes (one hour 30 minutes) to finish the test.
2. Please answer ALL FIVE online questions by clicking on the START button.
3. This test has been designed to test your overall, in-depth knowledge of the Methodology course you have studied so far. These are questions to test your competency and assist you when you plan to further your studies.
4. When answering the questions, you are allowed to have your textbook and other sources next to you (*open book*). However, you will NOT have time to search for answers. Please DO NOT copy and paste the answers from the internet or from other sources – You WILL be penalised!
5. You will have roughly 18 minutes to answer each question. If you don't finish the test, you did not work quickly enough and do not know your work thoroughly. Type as much as you possibly can in the allotted time.
6. Please try to do your best!

Question 1

Methodology is an analysis of the ways in which knowledge can be gathered and is concerned with the logic of the processes applied in scientific inquiry. Methodology is distinct from method in that it examines the potential efficacy of research methods in answering questions about the object or phenomena being studied. Common research methods employed in social sciences are qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods of research.

With the above description in mind, explain the difference between *quantitative* and *qualitative* research methods and indicate what you understand *Triangulation* to mean. [20]

Question 2

Explain all three dominant methodological traditions, namely positivism, interpretivism and critical realism. [20]

Question 3

Differentiate between and describe *exploratory*, *descriptive* and *causal* research. [20]

Question 4

Explain and differentiate between *deductive* and *inductive* logic, and provide examples for each. Also explain what *Fallacious Reasoning* is and name and provide <u>two</u> examples of common fallacies. [20]

Question 5

Explain the meaning of Ethics and why you think this branch of philosophy is important to apply when doing research in Politics. What constitutes unethical behaviour amongst researchers and how would you avoid scientific misconduct? [20]