



ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF LAW

EXAMINATION PAPER

COURSE CODE : LLB 111
COURSE TITLE : Legal Research, Writing and Information
Technology
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS : Relevant pieces of legislation
DURATION : 3 Hours
LEVEL : 1.1
DATE :

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. Answer **FOUR** questions. Question **ONE** in section A is compulsory. Answer any **THREE** questions from **section B**. Each question carries **25 marks**.
2. Students may bring into the exam un-annotated and clean texts of applicable legislation. Copies with notes inside shall not be allowed and may be confiscated. No student is allowed to share his/her copy with another.
3. Students are **NOT** allowed to carry and use electronic gadgets such as laptops and cellular phones, among other things.
4. Write legibly.
5. Number your answers accordingly.

Section A: Compulsory question

Question 1

You are excited about completing your law undergraduate studies. You are determined to put together the structure of your dissertation before you begin your final year of study. You have already identified an exciting subject and topic and are convinced that your supervisor will not hesitate to agree with you on the matter. Present an outline of your proposal and the justification thereof. [25 marks].

Section B ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

Question 2.

‘The answer to the question ‘What is knowledge?’ is fundamental in research’. Do you agree with this statement? Discuss how philosophers have over centuries grappled with this philosophical question. Is the inquiry into this question relevant to legal research?

[25marks]

Question 3

‘Despite the much talked about “lack of public confidence in our judiciary”, I would still advise my client to pursue his /her rights through our courts. Surely the certainty and stability of both the judicial process developed over centuries and the primary law applicable must secure my client’s interests to a large extent’. Do you agree with this statement? Using IRAC prepare a comprehensive critique.

[25 marks]

Question 4

One of the main challenges in legal research is that all sources of law must be handled with care and the legal researcher must spend considerable time to ensure that the advice given to the client is relevant and the law relied upon current and applicable. Discuss this statement?

[25 marks]

Question 5

“Lawyers don’t know basic grammar and syntax. They can’t say anything simply. They have no judgment and don’t know what to include or what to leave out. They do not know how to tell a story—where to begin, when to end or how to organize. They get so carried away with their advocacy that they distort and even deceive.” (Tom Goldstein and Jethro K. Lieberman, *The lawyer’s Guide to writing Well*, pp. 3-4) Discuss and analyse this statement?

[25 marks]

Question 6

Discuss the assertion that to write intelligently means that a person should know how to write as to be understood, or should know how to put his/her ideas in written words so that he be understood, or writes like people in general express their ideas. [25 marks]

End of Examination