

GEO 311



ALUPE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER REGULAR MAIN
EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION

COURSE CODE: GEO 311

COURSE TITLE: FIELDWORK AND RESEARCH METHODS IN
GEOGRAPHY

DATE: 8TH DECEMBER, 2025

TIME: 9.00AM – 12.00PM

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

- SEE INSIDE

THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 3 PRINTED PAGES

PLEASE TURN OVER

GEO 311: FIELDWORK AND RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY

STREAM: BED

DURATION: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- i. Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions
- ii. Do not write on the question paper.

Question One

- a) i) Explain how fieldwork qualifies Geography as a science (2 Marks)
- ii) Give four main reasons for conducting research in Geography (4 Marks)
- b) Define the following terms as used in research:
- i) Variable (2 Marks)
 - ii) Hypothesis (2 Marks)
 - iii) Parameter (2 Marks)
 - iv) Theory (2 Marks)
- c) You are required to conduct research in your County on the problems faced by smallholder farmers in their efforts to ensure food security in the County.
- i) Which research design will be appropriate for the study? Give reason (2 Marks)
 - ii) Formulate two specific objectives for the study (4 Marks)
 - iii) Explain how you will obtain the required sample for your study (5 Marks)
 - iv) Highlight five ethical issues you will consider in the study (5 Marks)

Question Two

Explain any three probability sampling techniques and two non-probability sampling techniques used in research (20 Marks)

Question Three

- a) Discuss the importance of literature review in research (12 Marks)
- b) Explain why field excursion continues to dominate fieldwork in geography despite being regarded as a simplistic methodology of enquiry (8 Marks)

Question Four

- a) Explain how you will use the following methods to collect data during research:
 - (i) Structured questionnaire (4 Marks)
 - (ii) Structured interview (4 Marks)
 - (iii) Focused group discussion (4 Marks)
- b) Explain how you will test reliability and validity of research instruments used or data obtained during research (8 Marks)

Question Five

- a) Giving relevant examples for each, differentiate between descriptive and inferential statistics in data analysis (8 Marks)
- b) Describe the process of data analysis (12 Marks)
