Course Code and Title: **LIBS2301 – RESEARCH METHODOLOGY FOR INFORMATION SPECIALISTS**

Date: **May 17, 2012**   Time: **4:00 – 6:00 pm**

Duration: **2 Hours**   **Paper No:**

Materials required:

Answer booklet: **Normal** ☒   **Special** ☐   **Not required** ☐

Calculator: Programmable ☐   **Non Programmable** ☐
(where applicable)

Multiple Choice answer sheets: numerical ☐ alphabetical ☐ 1-20 ☐ 1-100 ☐
Auxiliary/Other material(s) – Please specify:

Candidates are permitted to bring the following items to their desks:

Instructions to Candidates: This paper has 2 pages & 6 questions.

Candidates are reminded that the examiners shall take into account the proper use of the English Language in determining the mark for each response.

ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.

FOR QUESTION 1 DO EITHER 1a) OR 1b)

1. a)
    Identify and explain **TWO (2)** probability and **TWO (2)** non-probability methods of selecting samples, and give **ONE (1)** scenario to illustrate the conditions in which each method would be appropriate.

OR

b)

Explain the context in which you would use a simple random sample, and outline with examples the process of selecting such a sample.

2. Explain with examples the stages of the research cycle as presented by Leedy. Comment on its value to a researcher.

3. Identify the characteristics of the survey methodology, and indicate with examples the context in which a survey is appropriate.

4. **FOR QUESTION 4 DO BOTH a) AND b)**

(a)
Identify and explain **THREE (3)** measures of central tendency, and state with examples, conditions under which each measure achieves the identification of the "centre" of a set of data.

(b)
For each measure of central tendency identified above in 4 a), calculate the "centre" for each group of data. Round off the values to one decimal place where necessary.

   1) 97 86 88 90 88 92 90 88 80

   2) 97 82 71 85 82 82 84 91

5. Give the rationale for using questionnaires as data collection instruments, and explain how a researcher can overcome the potential weaknesses.

6. Identify the conditions under which the case study methodology is appropriate, and explain with examples how a researcher can compensate for the limitations of this methodology.

END OF PAPER