



STRATHMORE INSTITUTE
DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DIR 1101: BASICS OF PROJECT AND PROPOSAL WRITING

DATE: 15th December, 2020

Time: **2 Hours**

Instructions

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. Answer **Question ONE and TWO (COMPULSORY)** and **ONE** question from **section C**.
3. Do not write on the question paper.

SECTION A: Question ONE compulsory

Below is an abstract from a research project, read and answer the questions that follow

The African Union (AU) is looked at as the continent's hope for the achievement of peace and security. The AU has embraced the international principle of responsibility to protect the people of Africa; to protect them where the leaders and Governments are unable or unwilling to do so. This study examines the AU's application of the recently developed notion of **Responsibility to Protect (R2P)** in order to achieve peace in the continent. The study adopted a descriptive research design and majorly used secondary data emanating from desk top research. Also, selected AU senior officers were interviewed to get primary data. Qualitative data analysis was useful in describing the findings. The study found out that the implementation of R2P is still controversial and therefore it concludes that the AU has been limited in its application of R2P for various reasons with the key issues being lack of political will and lack of finances. Based on the liberal theory perspective, the study recommends a stronger focus on the issues of prevention and peace building so as to avoid enforced or military intervention.

Based on the abstract above answer the following:

- a) Write an appropriate research topic for this research project (6 marks)
- b) State the main objective of this research project (4 marks)

- c) Formulate **two** specific objectives (6 marks)
- d) State TWO research questions (4 marks)
- e) Explain the methodology used in this research project (10 marks)

SECTION B: Question TWO compulsory

Read the sample abstract below and answer the questions that follow.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) was established as a permanent independent institution to prosecute individuals who committed or implicated in the most serious crimes of international concern including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, among its member states. However, the attempts by the ICC to prosecute sitting heads of state and powerful individuals has proven to be one of the challenges for this new institution. One such case is Kenya which experienced post-election violence in 2007/2008. Here, it is claimed that the ICC was unable to conclusively prosecute perpetrators of crimes and adequately compensated the victims. The main objective of the research was to investigate the challenges to the International Criminal Court in prosecuting crimes against humanity in Kenya between 2008-2014. The case study research design was used, with secondary data collected from policy papers, publications and reports made by official bodies of governments as well as the Office of ICC Prosecutor. The guiding theory was neo-liberal institutionalism. The research findings indicate that despite ICC's success, it faces several challenges. It recommends that states should establish credible national criminal systems to prosecute international crimes occurring within their jurisdictions. However, national prosecutions face their own challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, capacity, lack of political will and non-cooperation from state actors. Therefore, the study further recommends that ICC has to strengthen its relationship with States and provide assistance to national court systems. In conclusion, despite the fact that the ICC faces a lot of challenges it has made reasonable strides in deterring commission of crimes by leaders especially in Africa.

- a) In paragraph form, explain the scope of this research project (6 marks)
- b) Identify the key aspects of an abstract found in the sample abstract (4 marks)
- c) Based on the sample abstract above, explain TWO limitations you would anticipate and suggest ways of overcoming them. (4 marks)

SECTION C: Choose ONE Question from this section

QUESTION THREE

- a) Explain the difference between literature review and background to project writing. (6 marks)
- b) Discuss ways of structuring and writing a literature review (9 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

A research project is written in a specific scientific format where parts follow each in an organised manner. While describing the format of project writing, describe the key parts of a research proposal. (15 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

Assume you are conducting a research in Kenya's rural areas on the impact of the East Africa Community (EAC) on the economic welfare of societies. Examine the ethical considerations applicable to this research project. (15 marks)