

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY  
OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH.

WINTER EXAMINATION 2000

BACHELOR OF NURSING DEGREE

RESEARCH METHODS (NU416) (BND 1)

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You are expected to answer a total of **THREE** (3) questions.

Use a separate answer book for each question.

Please note you are expected to support your answers by referring to relevant literature and examples from research studies where appropriate.

Time Allowed: Two (2) hours

1. Staff in the area in which you work have recently set up a Journal Club, its purpose is to support nurses in critically reading research studies of relevance to their practice. You have been asked to give a short presentation on the key aspects that they should note when reading a study. Explain what you consider to be the key aspects. Your answer should include no less than **five** key aspects.  
(100 marks)
2.
  - (a). Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of interviews as a method of data collection.  
(50 marks)
  - (b). Describe the key factors you would consider when constructing an interview schedule.  
(50 marks)

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3. Discuss how the research process is used for planning **both** qualitative and quantitative studies. (100 marks)
4. (a) Discuss what is meant by random sampling methods? (50 marks)
- (b) Discuss what is meant by non-random sampling methods? (50 marks)
- Use appropriate examples to support your answers.
5. Below is a brief description of a fictitious research study. Read the description and evaluate the ethical aspects of the study.

Quirke (1998) carried out a study to determine the extent to which psychiatric patients felt they were involved in and participated in their care. Permission to conduct the study was obtained from the Director of Nursing. A convenience sample of 100 patients was selected by the Director of Nursing to participate in the study. The researcher assured confidentiality and anonymity of patient responses. Questionnaires were used to collect the data. Nurses were asked to distribute the questionnaires and assist the identified participants in completing them. The nurses who assisted in the study were given an extra half-day annual leave for their efforts. In order to increase the response rate and facilitate the sending of reminder notes participants were asked to write their names and addresses on the completed questionnaires. All completed questionnaires were collected by the ward sister on each ward and then given to the researcher. To ensure dissemination of research findings a copy of the final report was sent to each ward. The researcher expressed her gratitude to all those involved in the study by including participants' names in the list of acknowledgements. (100 marks)