



PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

JANUARY – APRIL 2026

CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU

DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COURSE CODE: DCR 114

COURSE TITLE: CRIMINAL LAW

DURATION: 3 HOURS

TIME: 2.00 PM-5:00PM

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read the instructions and questions carefully before you write the answers.
- **Answer any THREE questions**
- *ALL PAC University's examination rules and regulations apply*

Question One

- a) Samantha, a single mother struggling to make ends meet, finds herself in a desperate situation. With mounting debts and her child falling seriously ill, Samantha is overwhelmed and sees no way out. In a moment of desperation, she steals expensive medication from a local pharmacy to save her child's life. On her way, she is attacked by thugs who attempt to steal the medication. She picks a knife and in the process injures one of the thugs who ran into the nearby thicket. Considering the above scenario, analyze any five general justifications in Criminal Law that Samantha may invoke to justify her actions. (10 Marks)
- b) Investigations are crucial stages in the criminal justice system and yet it has often not been effectively carried out. Briefly discuss five reasons for this shortcoming in Kenya (10mks)

Question Two

Mike and Rachel both students at PAC University were arguing the meaning of criminal responsibility in Kenya. Mike insisted that one must have knowledge of what they are doing for it to be a crime while Rachel insisted that any act of crime must be punished. In light of the discussion between Mike and Rachel, evaluate the following concepts;

- i) Mens rea (2 Marks)
- ii) Actus reus (2 Marks)
- iii) Burden of Proof (2 Marks)
- iv) Criminal negligence (2 Marks)
- v) Criminal recklessness (2 Marks)

Using appropriate and relevant examples, discuss any five permitted defenses that an accused person may use to prove/ show they are not responsible for an offense (10 marks)

Question Three

- a) Using examples evaluate any five categories' offences in Kenya Criminal Law (10 marks)
- b) Brayo, a university student, is caught in a series of events that lead to various criminal activities, for instance he breaks into a classmate's dormitory and steals their laptop and personal belongings, during a heated argument with another student, Brayo physically attacks the student, causing injuries. These and other criminal activities are attributed to Brayo's conduct while at Campus. Provide a comprehensive analysis of any five potential criminal offenses applicable to Brayo's actions. (10 Marks)

Question four

- a) "There are as many definitions of law as those who attempt to define it". Using any **five** examples discuss the above statement in the context of Criminal law (10 Marks)
- b) In the busy City of Nairobi, Kenya, the Police officers are grappling with an increase in criminal activities causing fear among the city dwellers. As a student who has attended a course in Criminal Law, you are asked to make presentation in which you are to evaluate and apply two specific sources of criminal law in Kenya to address the following scenarios. Discuss what would be contained in your presentation (10 Marks)

THE END