**PAN AFRICAN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2025/2026**

**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CRIMINOLOGY AND SECURITY LEADERSHIP**

**CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU**

**DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**COURSE CODE: BCSL 415**

**COURSE TITLE: PRACTICE OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**

**EXAM DATE:**

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

**TIME:**

**Instructions:**

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

## QUESTION ONE (1)

**Case Scenario**

At Nyota Secondary School, a Form Three student, Kelele, was caught vandalizing the school computer laboratory after an argument with another student. Several computers were damaged, disrupting learning activities and causing financial loss to the school. Instead of pursuing suspension alone, the school administration organized a restorative justice conference involving Kelele, the affected students, teachers, his parents, and community representatives. During the meeting, Kelele admitted responsibility for his actions and explained that he had been struggling with family problems and feelings of exclusion at school. The victims described the emotional and

academic impact of the incident, while community members discussed the broader effects on the school environment. The participants worked together to develop a plan that required Kelele to repair the harm through community service, assisting in laboratory restoration, offering an apology, and participating in counselling sessions. The school hoped that the process would promote accountability, healing, reconciliation, and the prevention of future misconduct.

a) Assess **ONE** role of reconciliation in achieving the objectives of restorative justice in the scenario.

**(2 Marks)**

b) Using the principles of Restorative Justice, evaluate **TWO** ways in which the conference process addressed the needs of the victim, offender, and community in the scenario.

**(4 Marks)**

c) Discuss how the philosophy of repairing harm rather than simply punishing the offender is demonstrated in the school's response to Kelele's actions. **(4 Marks)**

d) Explain **THREE** ways in which the principle of stakeholder participation contributed to the resolution of the conflict and restoration of relationships within the school community.

**(6 Marks)**

e) With examples from the scenario, evaluate whether a traditional punitive approach, such as suspension alone, would have achieved the same outcomes as the restorative justice conference.

**(4 Marks)**

**QUESTION TWO (2)**

a. Restorative justice is fundamentally a values-driven practice (anonymous). Outline any FOUR core values that distinguish restorative justice from other approaches.

**(8 Marks)**

b. In the village of Kijani, a young man was found responsible for stealing livestock belonging to a neighboring family. Instead of immediately reporting the matter to government authorities, community elders convened a meeting involving the offender, the victim, their families, and other community members. During the meeting, participants discussed the harm caused, the reasons

behind the offence, and possible ways to repair the damaged relationships. The elders proposed that the offender compensate the victim, publicly apologize, and commit to positive future behaviour. However, some members of the victim's family argued that harsh punishment should be imposed to deter similar acts.

Using Community Justice, explain how the concepts of relationship repair, stakeholder participation, restoration of peace, restitution, apology, future behaviour, and the role of revenge as a last resort can be applied to achieve justice in this case. **(12 Marks)**

**QUESTION THREE (3)**

a. Drawing on the principles and practices of restorative justice in the Kenyan child justice system, describe **FIVE** suitability of diversion and restorative justice processes in handling juvenile offending cases. **(10 Marks)**

b. Humanistic mediation, developed by restorative justice scholar Mark Umbreit, prioritizes dialogue and healing over problem-solving. Assess **FIVE** key elements of humanistic mediation in the Criminal Justice System. **(10 Marks)**

**END**