



# **MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

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## **University Examinations 2024/2025**

### **FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FINANCE**

#### **BFS 3401: REAL ESTATE FINANCE**

**DATE: JANUARY 2025**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

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#### **QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the legal rights a mortgage lender has in relation to real estate ownership if the borrower defaults on the loan (5mks)
- b) Differentiate between freehold and leasehold property ownership indicating the legal implications of each type of ownership (5mks)
- c) Explain challenges might the real estate market face in adapting to future trends (5mks)
- d) Discuss the main objectives of taxation in the real estate market? Explain how each objective is achieved (5mks)
- e) You are considering purchasing an office building for Kshs 2,500,000. You expect the potential gross income (PGI) in the first year of operations to be Kshs 450,000; vacancy and

collection losses to be 9 percent of PGI; and operating expenses and capital expenditures to be 42 percent of effective gross income (EGI).

Required to Calculate:

- i. the estimated Net operating income (3mks)
- ii. the implied first year overall capitalization rate (3mks)
- iii. the effective gross income multiplier (2mks)
- iv. Operating expense ratio (including CAPX) (2mks)

### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Prepare a mortgage schedule for a loan of Kshs200,000 at a fixed interest rate of 5% per year over a 15-year term. (6mks)
- b) Discuss how zoning regulations can impact real estate valuation. (6mks)
- c) Explain adverse possession, and what are the legal conditions required to claim ownership under this doctrine (8mks)

### **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Describe the process of transferring property ownership through sale. Include the legal steps involved from the contract to closing. (10mks)
- b) Explain the role of environmental regulations in the real estate market, and how do they impact property development? (5mks)

- c) A commercial property has a projected Net Operating Income (NOI) of KES 1,200,000. If the market cap rate for similar properties is 9%, calculate the estimated value of the property. (5mks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) A nursery school building with a total area of 60m<sup>2</sup> is 12 yrs old and need to be valued for sale. The estimated economic life is 90 yrs. It stands on an area of land measuring 5 ha. Vacant land in the same area has been selling at 1.1m per ha. Current construction cost for similar building average 80,000 per sqm. Estimate the value using cost approach. (6mks)
- b) By use of example, explain How technology influence the real estate market (8mks)
- c) A property has a projected cash flow of KES 500,000 per year for the next 5 years, and a terminal value of KES 3,000,000 at the end of year 5. If the required return (discount rate) is 10%, calculate the present value of the property (6mks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss the key factors that influence the real estate market environment. (8mks)
- b) Explain the Location Theory and its significance in real estate. (6mks)
- c) A property has a projected cash flow of KES 500,000 per year for the next 5 years, and a terminal value of KES 3,000,000 at the end of year 5. If the required return (discount rate) is 10%, calculate the present value of the property (6mks)