UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER

JULY, 2013

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TITLE OF PAPER   :   RESEARCH METHODS   2

COURSE CODE   :   BA 401 FULL TIME

TIME ALLOWED   :   TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1.   THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER FIVE (4)

           2.   SECTION A IS COMPULSORY.

           3.   ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS IN SECTION B

           4.   THE MARKS TO BE AWARDED FOR EACH QUESTION ARE INDICATED ALONGSIDE THE QUESTION.

NOTE: MARKS WILL BE AWARDED FOR GOOD COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH, AS WELL AS FOR ORDERLY AND NEAT PRESENTATION OF WORK. FURTHER MARKS WILL BE AWARDED FOR USE OF RELEVANT EXAMPLES.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: NONE

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A

A researcher used a two sample t-test to see whether there were differences in the performance of 4th year students in Accounting and in Management in quantitative techniques. After testing the pupils in the two departments, the following results were obtained.

Name of School		N	Π (Mean)	SD
Accounting	Performance	100	15,29	3,29
Management	Performance	100	18,82	3,21

Probability value (p) = 0.05
t-value   = 0,53
table value   =0,61

a) Give an appropriate heading to the table   5 marks

b) Comment on the;
   1. Means of the two schools   5 marks

   2. Standard deviation (SD) of the two school   5 marks

c) Formulate a hypothesis for the research and indicate what type of a
   hypothesis it is   10 marks

d) From the results, which hypothesis should be accepted and why?
e) Explain fully, showing what the results mean.   15 marks

f) What type of measurement level is involved in the explanatory and
   criterion variables? Explain your answer   10 marks

SECTION B

Question 2

    a) Differentiate between validity of findings and validity of measurement.   10 marks

    b) When is it appropriate to use nonparametric statistics in research   15 marks

Question 3

    Discuss inferential statistical procedures and their purpose   25 marks

Question 4

    a) Discuss some of the difficulties that can occur in the test-retest reliability
method and cause a downward bias in stability   15 marks

    b) How can reliability be improved in research?   10 marks