

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER
MAY, 2014

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS

COURSE CODE : BA 401 IDE

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER FIVE (5)**
 - 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

English score of two groups

Group 1		Group 2	
Subject	Score	Subject	Score
1	66	1	58
2	55	2	25
3	88	3	39
4	65	4	27
5	77	5	56
		6	62
		7	46
		8	46

After a t-test was performed on this data, the results are shown below

Table 1: Group statistics

	Group	N	Mean	Std. deviation
Score	1	5	70.2000	12.63725
	2	8	44.8750	13,84029

Table 2: Independent samples test

	Levens test for equality of variances	Sig	t	Df	Sig 2 tailed	Mean diff	Std error diff	95% confidence interval of the difference	
	f							Lower limit	Upper limit
Score									
	0.071	0.795	3.311	11	0.007	25.3250	7.64790	8.49208	45,15792
			3.388	9.269	0.008	25.3250	7.47557	8.4882	42.16148

Discuss table 1 and 2

25 marks

Question 2

Discuss how data is analysed in two of the following

- A) Ethnography
- B) Phenomenology
- C) Grounded theory

25 marks

SECTION B

Question 1

Confidence intervals for males and females merit score $N(\text{males})=100$; $N(\text{females}) = 338$ in 2005 at a local university are given below

Gender	mean	95% confidence interval Lower limit	95% confidence interval Upper limit
Males	13.70	12.81	14.59
Females	16.80	16.23	17.36

Give a suitable heading 5 marks

Formulate a null hypothesis 5 marks

Explain fully showing what the results mean 15 marks

Question 2

Discuss the three measures of central tendency 9 marks

What are the differences between the four types of variable 10 marks

Why is it important to distinguish between the four types of variables 6 marks

Question 3

I What would you expect to find in an abstract 10 marks

II Differential statistical techniques are suitable for different kinds of data. Discuss the factors you should take into consideration before choosing a statistical technique. 15 marks

Question 4

Discuss inferential statistical procedures and their purpose 25 marks