

Course Code: BAE 304-1(M) 2005

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR III**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2005**

**TITLE OF PAPER** : **RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION**

**COURSE CODE** : **IDE-BAE 304-1**

**TIME ALLOWED** : **TWO (2) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS** :

1. **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
2. **ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS IN SECTION B.**
3. **MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR POORLY WRITTEN ENGLISH.**
4. **ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

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

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer ALL Questions.

**QUESTION 1**

Research designs may be generally regarded as experimental or non experimental.

True/False [2 marks]

**QUESTION 2**

In observation the researcher usually observes and records the frequency, duration or intervals of the behaviour.

True/False [2 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

Snowball sampling is a probability sampling technique.

True/False [2 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

No sampling technique can be applied before the identification and definition of the population.

True/False [2 marks]

**QUESTION 5**

Oral statements are important sources of data in case study research.

True/False [2 marks]

**QUESTION 6**

Oral histories are first-person narratives that the researchers collect by extensive interviewing of single individuals.

True/False [2 marks]

**QUESTION 7**

What should the research consider when determining how large a sample should be?

- (a) Sites from which the sample will be selected.
- (b) Number of individuals collecting data from the sample subjects
- (c) Convenience of the sampling
- (d) Amount of time available for the research.

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 8**

What is the major advantage of the survey method?

- (a) The population size is taken into account
- (b) The result can be generalised
- (c) Data can always be quantified
- (d) The investigation can always result in further research.

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 9**

One major weakness of the quasi-experimental design is that :

- (a) It is not clear how much of the change is due to intervention and which are due to other factors.
- (b) The researcher works out and controls the intervention programme
- (c) The researcher has to observe the group at one point in time
- (d) The group has to be very large for the research to be meaningful

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 10**

One of the limitations of historical research is that:

- (a) Events of the past have much bearing on the future
- (b) One cannot generalise the findings
- (c) Information is easy to get from those who are keen to volunteer it
- (d) The data the researcher finds may have been tempered with

[2 marks]

**SECTION B**

Instructions: Answer ANY THREE questions.

**QUESTION 11**

A historian wishes to investigate the development of adult education in Swaziland.

- (a) Discuss any **THREE** secondary sources he/she might use.
- (b) Justify the sources that you have selected.

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 12**

The questionnaire is a very useful data collection instrument.

List and explain the practical steps that you would take in constructing a questionnaire so that it gives you valid and reliable data. [20 marks]

**QUESTION 13**

Discuss the FOUR factors to be considered in selecting sampling designs in social science and education research. [20 marks]

**QUESTION 14**

- (a) Explain why participatory research is a more appropriate approach to conducting research in adult education. [10 marks]
- (b) Explain the procedure for snowball sampling. [10 marks]

**QUESTION 15**

Good research findings come from the use of probability samples. Explain the differences between probability and non-probability samples and why probability samples are preferred. [20 marks]