

Course Code: BAE 304-1(M) 2007

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR III
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2007

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. **ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

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SECTION A: COMPULSORY

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all Questions. Choose an option that best fits your answer to the following questions/statements.

QUESTION 1

In historical research the wide range of written and printed material recorded for purposes of transmitting information is called

- (a) relics
- (b) documents
- (c) primary sources
- (d) preliminary sources

[2 marks]

QUESTION 2

Which of the criteria does the following hypothesis most violate?

Hypothesis: The upper-division courses in civics will produce better adult citizens than the lower-division course in civics.

- (a) Hypotheses should be worth testing
- (b) Hypotheses should be testable
- (c) Hypotheses should be brief
- (d) All the above are correct

[2 marks]

QUESTION 3

Which of the following is not a pitfall in planning research?

- (a) the researcher puts off selection of a problem till the completion of all courses.
- (b) prepares poor hypotheses or untestable hypotheses
- (c) fails to conduct a pilot study
- (d) does not accept the first research idea that comes to mind

[2 marks]

QUESTION 4

Systematic sampling may be used instead of simple random sampling if the

- (a) population list is in some random order
- (b) sample size is small
- (c) population is heterogenous
- (d) expected difference are small

[2 marks]

QUESTION 5

In cluster sampling the sampling unit is the

- (a) individual
- (b) population
- (c) naturally occurring groups of individuals
- (d) population after having been sub-grouped on characteristics not related to the research

[2 marks]

QUESTION 6

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

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

[2 marks]

QUESTION 7

What is the major advantage of the survey method?

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

[2 marks]

QUESTION 8

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 some point in time
- (d) the group has to be very large for the research to be meaningful

[2 marks]

QUESTION 9

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]

QUESTION 10

If the researcher defines his population in a narrow fashion, the research results will be

- (a) useless
- (b) generalisable to a limited population
- (c) generalisable to a broader population
- (d) of no theoretical value

[2 marks]

SECTION B

Instructions: Answer ANY THREE questions.

QUESTION 11

Discuss the four factors to be considered in determining the size of a sample. [20 marks]

QUESTION 12

Outline the steps followed in conducting cluster sampling. [20 marks]

QUESTION 13

What are the advantages and limitations of the survey method? [20 marks]

QUESTION 14

What are the main features of an experimental research design? [20 marks]