

Course Code BAE 207(M) 2010

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION  
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR II  
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER , MAY 2010

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

**COURSE CODE:** IDE-BAE 207

**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.

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

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS. CHOOSE AN OPTION THAT BEST FITS YOUR ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS.**

**QUESTION 1**

Which of the following is defined as a reasonable guess, or a logical supposition, for explaining the phenomenon under investigation?

- (a) theory
- (b) inference
- (c) hypothesis
- (d) interpretation

(2 marks)

**QUESTION 2**

The process of formal research begins with the identification of:

- (a) research hypotheses
- (b) a feasible research plan
- (c) available participants
- (d) a research problem

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

Research problems:

- (a) are identified by experts in the field, and not typically knowable by novices.
- (b) clearly and completely specify important questions that are currently unanswered in a particular field of inquiry.
- (c) are broad, general statements about the incomplete state of understanding in a particular field of enquiry.
- (d) can be addressed by compiling and synthesizing existing information in a way that sheds light on the issue of interest.

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

One of the main limitations of causal-comparative research is that

- (a) it is more expensive than other types of research
- (b) control groups cannot be studied
- (c) cause-and-effect cannot be drawn from the research data
- (d) null hypotheses cannot be stated

[2 marks]

**Course Code BAE 207(M) 2010****QUESTION 5**

The protection of the individual's privacy in educational and social research involves two factors: consent of the individual as to what shall be disclosed to the researcher and

- (a) the length of time during which data are to remain confidential
- (b) confidential use of research data collected on individuals
- (c) the need for all the data to be collected anonymously
- (d) disclosure based only upon significance of findings [2 marks]

**QUESTION 6**

The division of individuals into two categories on the bases of performance on a continuous variable is called a (n).

- (a) artificial dichotomy
- (b) ranking
- (c) true dichotomy
- (d) artificial ranking [2 marks]

**QUESTION 7**

Mention FOUR sources of research problems. [8 marks]

**SECTION B****QUESTION 8**

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

**QUESTION 9**

- (a) What is the role of hypotheses in planning research? [10 marks]
- (b) How is correlational research different from experimental research? [10 marks]

**QUESTION 10**

Charles (1988) mentions seven (7) things to be considered when selecting a research problem; discuss FIVE (5) of these. [20 marks]

**QUESTION 11**

- (a) What is the difference between a discrete variable and a continuous variable? [10 marks]
- (b) Explain the difference between historical research and descriptive research. [10 marks]