

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF EDUCATION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION**  
**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR II**

**FINAL EXAMINATION MAY, 2012**

- TITLE OF PAPER** : **INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION**
- COURSE CODE** : **IDE-BAE 217**
- TIME ALLOWED** : **TWO (2) HOURS**
- INSTRUCTIONS** :
- 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.**
  - 2. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS FROM 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 FOLLOWING QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS**

**QUESTION 1**

A hypothesis is an example of a research problem in a statement form. True/False  
(2 marks)

**QUESTION 2**

List FOUR sources of a research problem. (8 marks)

**QUESTION 3**

Discuss the importance of observing ethics in conducting research in social sciences and education. (7 marks)

**QUESTION 4**

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

- a) Artificial dichotomy
  - b) Ranking
  - c) True dichotomy
  - d) Artificial variable
- (2 marks)

**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**

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

- a) it is more expensive than the other types of research
- b) control groups cannot be studied
- c) cause-and-effect relationships cannot be drawn from the research data
- d) null hypotheses cannot be stated (2 marks)

**QUESTION 7**

Informed consent can be secured without a full disclosure of what the research is all about.

True/False  
 (2 marks)  
 TOTAL: 2 MARKS

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 8**

With examples discuss the difference between experimental and causal comparative research.  
 (25 marks)

**QUESTION 9**

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

**QUESTION 10**

- a) Pick a problem of your choice and state it in question and statement form.  
(10 marks)
- b) What is the role of hypotheses in planning research?  
(15 marks)

**QUESTION 11**

Discuss EIGHT (8) characteristics of research according to Best and Kahn (1993).  
 (25 marks)