

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR 3**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2016**

**TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION**

**COURSE CODE: IDE-BAE317**

**TIME 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS: SECTION A IS COMPULSORY.**

**ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION B.**

## SECTION A

### ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

#### QUESTION 1

- a) With the aid of relevant examples discuss your understanding of this statement: "*the question determines the methods*". 15 marks
- b) Why is it necessary for you as a researcher to always ensure that you sufficiently describe the study population and the sample size? 6 marks
- c) Describe the types of data that you are likely to collect as a researcher? 3 marks
- d) List and describe at least two (2) approaches that you can use to analyse the data you have mentioned above. 6 marks

Total marks [30]

#### Question 2

Observational research can help the researcher to collect data that would be impossible to obtain using other research designs.

- a) Briefly discuss the two ways which a researcher can use to observe the sample? 10 marks
- b) Highlight the weaknesses and strengths of each of these ways you have mentioned. 10 marks
- c) With the aid of examples briefly describe why observational research can be deemed unethical. 6 marks
- d) Give and justify at least two scenarios where observational research can become useful. 4 marks

Total marks [30]

## SECTION B

### ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

#### QUESTION 3

- a) Why do you need to sample as a researcher? 1 mark
  - b) Name at least two methods of sampling that you know. 1 mark
  - c) Briefly explain instances when a researcher is likely to use the following sampling techniques:
    - i. Simple random sampling
    - ii. Stratified random sampling
    - iii. Convenience sampling
    - iv. Cluster sampling
    - v. Systematic sampling
    - vi. Purposive sampling
    - vii. Quota sampling
    - viii. Snowball sampling
    - ix. Stage sampling
- Marks [2 x 9=18]

Total marks [20]

#### QUESTION 4

Critically describe the characteristics of the qualitative and quantitative research paradigms.  
20 marks

#### QUESTION 5

Participatory research often times gives the people for whom the research is meant for to take a lead and contribute in the creation of such knowledge; critically discuss the features of participatory research. What could be the disadvantages of this research design? 20 marks