

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION
PART-TIME DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR II
MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER – MAY 2017

TITLE OF PAPER : **RESEARCH DESIGN AND TECHNIQUES**

COURSE CODE : **AED202**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) 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.**

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SECTION A: (Compulsory)

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all Questions.

QUESTION 1

Loss of subjects during the course of a research project usually introduces bias because:

- a) the resulting sample is too small
- b) they are not lost on a random basis
- c) descriptive statistics cannot be used on the resulting data
- d) all of the above.

(2 marks)

QUESTION 2

A general term that is used to describe a distribution of data that are not symmetrical is a:

- a) bell-shaped distribution
- b) normal distribution
- c) abnormal distribution
- d) skewed distribution

(2 marks)

QUESTION 3

In qualitative research the _____ is the most important instrument:

- a) questionnaire
- b) behaviour checklist
- c) researcher
- d) participants

(2 marks)

QUESTION 4

In experimental research, the variable that is manipulated is the:

- a) dependent variable
- b) independent variable
- c) confounding variable
- d) constant

(2 marks)

QUESTION 5

The typical return rate for a survey questionnaire mailed to strangers is about:

- a) 80%
- b) 65%
- c) 50%
- d) 35%

(2 marks)

QUESTION 6

Copies of the survey instruments are included in the:

- a) Front matter
- b) End matter
- c) Appendices
- d) Body of the report

(2 marks)

QUESTION 7

List 3 scales of measurement.

(3 marks)

QUESTION 8

Here is a set of scores: 5, 3, 7, 3, 6, 2, 5, 3. The median of the set of scores is _____

- a) 2
- b) 3
- c) 4
- d) 4.5

(2 marks)

QUESTION 9

When writing a report, information regarding the design of the study is typically included in the _____ section.

- a) introduction
- b) literature review
- c) method
- d) results

(2 marks)

QUESTION 10

The most appropriate measure(s) of central tendency to use with nominal data is/are:

- a) the median only
- b) the mode only
- c) the median and the mean
- d) the median and the mode

(2 marks)

QUESTION 11

In _____ a particular individual, programme or event is studied in depth over a defined period of time.

- a) case study
- b) ethnography
- c) phenomenology
- d) grounded theory

(2 marks)

QUESTION 12

The altering of data is allowable:

- a) When it is clear that the participant marked a response in error.
- b) When the researcher suspects that a participant was careless.
- c) When the researcher suspects a participant of misunderstanding the question.
- d) Under no circumstances.

(2 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 13

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of mailed questionnaires. (25 marks)

QUESTION 14

Explain why it is important to adhere to research ethics in conducting and reporting findings in a study. Cite the four research ethics applicable to education and social science research. (25 marks)

QUESTION 15

How do the following affect the internal validity of the findings of experimental research studies?

- a) Instrumentation
- b) Experimental mortality

c) Maturity

(25 marks)

QUESTION 16

a) Use the grouped data frequency distribution shown below to calculate the mean.

Class Interval	f
72 – 74	3
69 – 71	4
66 – 68	2
63 – 65	3
60 - 62	3
57 – 59	4
54 – 56	4
51 – 53	2
48 – 50	1
45 – 47	3
42 – 44	3
39 – 41	3

(25 marks)

b) For the following distribution of scores find the mode and median:

20, 45, 21, 21, 21, 21, 25, 27, 29, 21, 30, 33, 21, 39, 40

(7 marks)