

AED 213

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF EDUCATION

PART TIME DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR 2

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, DECEMBER 2017

TITLE OF PAPER: ORGANISATION & MANAGEMENT OF DISTANCE EDUCATION AND
OPEN LEARNING

COURSE CODE: AED 213

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER FOUR (4) OUT OF SIX (6) QUESTIONS
2. ANSWERS SHOULD BE WRITTEN IN THE ANSWER BOOKLETS PROVIDED.
3. PLEASE LEAVE SPACE AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED A QUESTION.

THIS PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED
PERMISSION.

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QUESTION 1 – [25 marks]

- a. *“In the past, people came to the information, and the information was at the university. In the future, the information will come to the people, wherever, they are” (Noam, 1995, pg.2 cited in UNESCO ICT in Distance Education, 2002).*

Interpret the above-cited quotation. Use your own words to explain what it means in relation to the Distance Education (DE) and Open Learning (OL) concept.

[5 marks]

- b. Examine the question *‘Can Open Learning and Distance Education are described as a likely way of educating the masses?’*

In your response:

- i. Explain what the words ‘open’ and ‘distance’ mean in the Open Distance Learning (ODL) context.
- ii. Show your understanding of the ODL concept by explaining why ‘technology’ is considered a solid method of bridging the Teaching and Learning distance effectively.
- iii. Cite two specific technologies you have used during this course (as a Teaching and Learning tool) and explain how they facilitate the Teaching and Learning process for you and in ODL.

[20 marks]

Question 2 [25 Marks]

- a. i. Explain what the two (2) theories closely aligned with Open and Distance Learning mean; Constructivism and Adult Learning Theory- Andragogy (Malcolm Knowles 1980). Why are these theories connected to active learning?

[3 Marks].

- ii. Why are Open Distance Learning and or Distance Education supposedly most suitable for the adult learner?

[2 Marks]

- b. List and explain four (4) key adult learners assumptions/ characteristics Malcolm Knowles (1980) suggested as competently transferring meaningful learning for adults.

[5 Marks]

- c. Outline the differences between the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) content delivery teaching and learning methods (which usually caters for the adult learner) and 'traditional/conventional' ones.

[15 Marks]

QUESTION 3 [25 MARKS]

- a. Imagine you have been requested to promote and campaign for Distance Education programmes, with emphasis on the benefits of using ICTs/technology as an effective Teaching and Learning strategy.

In your remarks/speech consider the following:

- i. Describe the blended learning teaching and learning approach as practiced at UNISWA, IDE.
- ii. Share your personal experience about the advantages of using technology such as; Print e-learning (Moodle/M-learning), WhatsApp, internet, websites and or any other for learning purposes.
- iii. Highlight two (2) challenges you encountered with technology usage (to learn) and state how you overcame them.

[20 Marks]

- b. Briefly explain what each of the following key ODL terminology and or phrases mean.
1. Asynchronous Learning/communication
 2. Synchronous Learning/communication
 3. E-learning
 4. Distance education
 5. Andragogy

[5 Marks]

Question 4 [25 marks]

- a. Quality instructional materials must follow a certain development of materials criteria when creating ODL teaching and learning materials.

Name and explain how five (5) 'access devices' can be used when creating ODL and or distance education instructional materials.

[5 marks]

- b. In an essay format, discuss what and how the following key elements used when structuring a unit/module (s) enhance the quality of the ODL instructional materials produced.

- i. Objectives
- ii. Introduction
- iii. Activities
- iv. Heading and sub-headings
- v. Icons/Images/visuals
- vi. Language
- vii. Summary
- viii. Assessment (s)
- ix. Design and Layout issues (mention the importance of 'readability').

[20 Marks]

Question 5 [25 marks]

- a. Distance Education and Open Learning operation systems, like any other business, necessitate good management that demands exemplary management ideas, namely; **planning, organising, leadership and controlling/managing** by Executive Management.

Make a case for or against this view. Support your view(s).

[10 Marks]

- b. Explain the role of each of the following Units within the UNISWA, Institute of Distance Education (IDE):
- i. Assistant Registrar office (Administrator).
 - ii. Materials Design and Development Unit
 - iii. Student Support Services Unit

[10 Marks]

- c. Briefly describe how e-learning devices can assist each of the Units within IDE (cited above) support distance students achieve their academic goals.

[5 Marks]

Question 6 [25 Marks]

a.

- i. Explain the difference between single and dual mode institutions.
Is UNISWA, IDE categorised as a single or a dual mode institution.

[3 Marks]

- ii. Look at some vital resources any ODL institution requires (as reflected below).
Explain how each contributes towards ensuring the smooth running of any ODL/DE institution.

- Human resources
- Physical Resources
- Financial resources

[6 Marks]

- b. 'Interactivity', thus 'communication' is important in any teaching and learning setting.

- i. Review the above-mentioned statement and express in your own words why these two aspects are critical in both **administration** and the **classroom**.
- ii. How does **e-learning** help make sure that interaction/communication occurs on an on-going basis in any ODL/DE scenario regardless of whether it's in the administration office or classroom.

[5 Marks]

- c. Define Open Educational Resources?

[2 Mark]

- d. There are 6 Creative Commons (CC) licenses that allow the creators of educational resources to apply for a creative commons defining how their work is to be reused/shared.

Reflect on the above-cited statement. Make a personal statement why you think these licenses are important in relation to disseminating academic information.

[5 Marks]

e. Give two (2) similarities between ODL and OERs.

[2 Marks]

f. What are two advantages of OER in the academic world?

[2 Marks]