

AED 203

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

PART TIME DIPLOMA IN ADULT EDUCATION YEAR 2

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER - NOVEMBER 2018

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

COURSE CODE: AED 203

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. SECTION A: ANSWER THREE (3) OUT OF SIX (6) QUESTIONS**
- 2. SECTION B: COMPULSORY QUESTION - ANSWER THE ONE (1) QUESTION IN THIS SECTION**
- 3. ANSWERS SHOULD BE WRITTEN IN THE ANSWER BOOKLETS PROVIDED.**
- 4. PLEASE START A NEW QUESTION ON A FRESH PAGE.**

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

SECTION A

ANSWER THREE (3) OUT OF SIX (6) QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 [25 marks]

- a. Open Learning is a blanket term used for learning systems that offer different combinations of 'openness' and 'distance.'

Based on the ODL principles cite and describe five similarities between Distance Education (DE) and Open Learning (OL).

[10 marks]

- b. Indicate (5) differences between the Open Distance Learning (ODL) and traditional/ conventional Learning and Teaching approaches.

[10 marks]

- c. In relation to Part A and B of this question, relate your experience of being a part-time student and state whether you prefer DE/OL to conventional/traditional Teaching and Learning pedagogy. Explain your view.

[5 marks]

Question 2 [25 Marks]

- a. Founder of the Adult Learning Theory, Malcolm Knowles (1913 -1997, 1984) suggested 4 principles of andragogy.

- i. Name these 4 principles and explain how each one is applicable to adult learning, specifically in the DE/OL context,

[10 marks].

- ii. Demonstrate your understanding of the Adult Learning Theory and Piaget's theory of Constructivist learning by clearly explaining why 'active learning' is recommended as an effective teaching and learning

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method for adult learners. To further illustrate your point, provide 3 examples of active learning activities.

- b. Why do you think student-centred learning and facilitating learning as opposed to lecturing/teaching in distance education/open learning is most suitable for the adult learner?

[5 marks]

QUESTION 3 [25 MARKS]

- a. Summarise the difference between e-learning and online learning.

[3 marks]

- b. Blended Learning is the Teaching and Learning approach The University of Eswatini (UNESWA) has opted for. Using the UNESWA, IDE as a model, explain how blended learning caters for the various learning styles. Likewise, reflect on how technology is used for teaching and learning purposes to assist students to become independent learners.

[12 marks]

- c. Outline two advantages (2) and challenges (2) of using social media / technology for teaching and learning in ODL.

[4 marks]

- d. Briefly state the meaning of each of the following key ODL terminology and or phrases.

1. Asynchronous Learning/communication
2. Synchronous Learning/communication

[3 marks]

- e. Using your experience with the Learning Management System Moodle, provide a personal statement of how it facilitates teaching and learning at a distance.

[3 marks]

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Question 4 [25 marks]

- a. According to Rowntree (1994) Open and Distance Learning (ODL) instructional materials among other things *'has to be effective, purposeful, structured, paced and engaging.'*

Having read the above cited quotation discuss the main fundamental essentials to consider when developing instructional materials for distance education/open learning students.

In an essay format, use the following guidelines to provide detail on how ODL instructional materials are enhanced to ensure they are of high quality and are effective learning and teaching tools.

- Clarify what is meant by instructional materials have to be 'accessible' and 'user friendly.'
- Cite and explain the function of the following six (6) access devices used in DE/OL instructional materials:

1. Contents Page
2. Unit objectives
2. Within text-assessment/Self-assessment activities
3. Headings and sub-headings
4. Language
5. Icons/images/visuals
6. Pagination

[25 marks]

Question 5 [25 marks]

- a. To ensure that the DE/OL student acquires the desired academic qualification, the Student Support Services and or Unit plays a critical role in distance education and open learning.

Studies have revealed that 'isolation' is one of the significant challenges in Open Distance Learning. Bearing in mind this problem of 'isolation', outline what causes it and offer solutions on how they can be overcome. In your response describe how technology can play a central part in helping to ease this particular challenge.

[20 marks]

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- b. Open Educational Resources are described as free learning resources available in the internet. How do you think they(OERs) support the DE/ODL student with their research studies?

[5 marks]

Question 6 [25 Marks]

- a. When planning, managing and organising the delivery of quality ODL programmes, there are key resources and different strategies you need to reflect upon and employ to deliver the course content to the students.

Focus on the specified (shown below) IDE sectors. In an essay format, **describe** how you would **plan, manage and organise** the delivery of DE and OL programmes to your target audience (ODL students).

1. Managing the Teaching and Learning in DE/OL
2. Managing the development and delivery of DE/OL self - instructional materials
3. Managing Students Assessment (assignments and exams)
4. Managing Study space
5. Managing Library Services

[20 marks]

- b. In your view why is communication very important in ODL?

[5 marks]

SECTION B

COMPULSORY QUESTION - ANSWER THIS ONE (1) QUESTION IN THIS SECTION.

Question 7 [25 marks]

- a. Distinguish between a single and dual mode institutions. Which mode do you prefer? Support your choice.

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[3 Marks]

- b. Using your own words, explain what is meant/ involved in the 'management' and 'organisation' of the delivery of DE/OL programmes.

[2 marks]

- c. In any ODL institution, 'structure' must be established so that all its functions can be carried out efficiently and effectively.

Imagine yourself as the Director of an Institute of Distance education and Open Learning. To ensure that quality DE/OL programmes are delivered, **describe** the function of each of the following key sub-systems (Units/offices) within the institute.

- i. Academic Unit
- ii. Materials/ Instructional Design & Development Unit
- iii. Research and Evaluation Unit
- iv. Student Support Service Unit
- v. Print and Production Unit
- vi. Copy Editor Office

Your response should also highlight how **technology** is utilised in each office/Unit to ensure that quality DE/OL products are produced as well as making sure that good communication is maintained internally and externally (with stakeholders and ODL learners) at all times.

[20 marks]