

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**



**FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS AND ANAGEMENT  
MAY/JUNE, 2010**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER**

**COURSE CODE : EDF 320: PAPER II**  
**TITLE OF PAPER : EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH**  
**TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS**  
**INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER QUESTION 1 AND ANY OTHER 2  
QUESTIONS**  
**TOTAL MARKS : 100**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION TO DO SO HAS  
BEEN GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR.**

**Question 1 (Compulsory Question)**

A lecturer at William Pitcher Teachers' College wanted to see if students taught through group discussions perform better than students taught through the lecture method. He randomly assigns his class to two groups and then gives them a test. He then proceeds to teach one group through group discussion and the other one through the lecture method. At the end, he gives the two groups another test to see if their performance was different.

- (a) What research design did the lecturer use in this study? Give reasons for your answer. (10 marks)
- (b) State the research problem in question form (5 marks)
- (c) In coming up with the two groups, which sampling design was used? Explain why this sampling design was appropriate. (5 marks)
- (d) State a null hypothesis you would come up with in this study. (5 marks)
- (e) Which of the two groups was the control group? (5 marks)
- (f) If the group taught through group discussions performed better than the group taught through the lecture method, what tentative conclusions would the lecturer come to? (5 marks)
- (g) If there were no significant differences in the performance of the two groups, what tentative conclusions would the lecturer draw? (5 marks)

**Total = (40 marks)**

**Question 2**

Giving examples where applicable, differentiate between:

- (a) population and sample (10 marks)
- (b) hypotheses and assumptions (10 marks)
- (c) descriptive and inferential statistics (10 marks)

**Question 3**

Choose one of the following sources of data and provide:

- (a) a brief explanation of the technique (10 marks)
- (b) conditions under which it is mostly successfully used. (10 marks)
- (c) an example of when it is inappropriate to use it. (10 marks)

Sources:

- (i) Interviews
- (ii) Observations

**Question 4**

In a class, 11 pupils obtained the following scores:

<u>Pupil</u>	<u>Mark</u>
A	13
B	14
C	14
D	15
E	16
F	16
G	16
H	17
I	17
J	18
K	20

Find the Z-scores of pupils A, B, F and K and explain what each answer means.

(30 marks)

**END OF EXAMINATION PAPER**