

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS AND

MANAGEMENT 2010/2011

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

May-June, 2011

TITLE OF PAPER: HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION
COURSE CODE: EDF 300
TIME ALLOWED: Three (3) hours
INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any four (4) questions

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

Question 1

- (a) According to idealists including Plato what is the nature of knowledge? [4 marks]
- (b) How would the nature of knowledge according to the philosophy of idealism affect the role of our schools, the curriculum, teaching methods and our role as teachers? [21 marks]

Question 2

- (a) A democratic and rights based approach to education is informed by which of the philosophies you have studied? Justify your answer. [5 marks]
- (b) In the philosophy mentioned in 2 (a) above the school is a social agent which ensures that there is a generation always prepared for an ever changing world. How can education prepare a student for an unknown future? [20 marks]

Question 3

- (a) The notion in education that empirical knowing is not only legitimate but superior can be likened to the suppression of thought through religion in the Middle Ages. Whose sectional interests in society are best served by this conception of knowledge? Justify your answer. [4 marks]
- (b) Describe education during the Middle Ages and explain why it may be considered as training rather than education? [21 marks]

Question 4

- (a) In what ways does Greek civilization provide valuable lessons about the importance of education in shaping good citizens? [21 marks]
- (b) Do you think citizenship and civic education should be the only aim of education? Justify your answer. [4 marks]

Question 5

- (a) What was the aim of African traditional education? [1 mark]
- (b) Compare the characteristics of African traditional education and British education in Swaziland. [24 marks]

Question 6

Briefly discuss the following: **(a) is compulsory**, and then choose any other **three**.

- (a) Importance and implications of Hippocrates's ethic for educational practitioners [7 marks]
- (b) **When** and **how** you would use the Socratic Method in a classroom environment [6 marks]
- (c) Contribution of scholastic philosophers like Thomas Aquinas to modern education. [6 marks]
- (d) The Sophist's content and method of teaching [6 marks]
- (e) Nyerere's education for self-reliance [6 marks]
- (f) Why we should teach children to think (philosophise) [6 marks]