UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, NOVEMBER 2013

COURSE CODE	:	PEC 371
TITLE OF PAPER	:	CURRICULUM STUDIES: SOCIAL STUDIES
TIME ALLOWED	:	TWO (2) HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS	1.	ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS.
	2.	EACH QUESTION CARRIES FIFTY (50) MARKS.
	3.	THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS EXAMINATION SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE CORRECT USAGE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AS WELL AS THE PRESENTATION OF THE ANSWER.
	4.	INDICATE ON YOUR ANSWER BOOKLET WHETHER YOU ARE FULL TIME (F/T) OR NOT (IDE). APPEND THE INITIALS F.T OR I.D.E. TO YOUR I.D. NUMBER.

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

QUESTION 1

(a) Briefly explain what is meant by the term the "birds-eye-view" of an object. (5 marks)

(b) Why do pupil in the pre-operational stage of development often fail to understand that a map represents reality? (5 marks)

(c) Suggest a strategy that could be used to help pupils draw a map of their classroom.

(10 marks)

(d) Describe three Piagetian tasks that could be administered to estimate pupils' ability to conceptualise spaces. Draw appropriate diagrams to illustrate your answer. (30 marks)

QUESTION 2

(a) It is often claimed that dividing a class into small groups enhances learning. How valid is this claim? Provide evidence to support your opinion. (10 marks)

(b) Discuss one advantage and one criticism of four criteria that are used for grouping students. (40 marks)

QUESTION 3

(a) Outline and give examples of two types of concepts. (6 marks)
(b) Discuss two strategies that are often used to combat verbalism in conceptual learning.
(10 marks)
(c) What are the pros and cons of these strategies. (10 marks)
(d) Give three reasons that explain why concept learning, especially among pupils, is sometimes susceptible to verbalism. (24 marks)

QUESTION 4

(a) Describe two ways by which textbooks could be helpful to teachers and pupils.
(10 marks)
(b) Explain three criteria that should be used in selecting textbooks. (15 marks)

(c) Discuss three criticisms that have been leveled against textbooks. (15 marks)

(d) Describe two criteria that could be used to explain the meaning of new words in textbooks. (10 marks)