

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND



FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM & TEACHING

MAIN EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER

MAY 2015.

TITLE OF PAPER: EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT: PRINCIPLES AND
PRACTICE

COURSE CODE: EDC 612

STUDENTS: M. Ed. Education

TIME ALLOWED: Three (3) Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. There are five questions in this paper.

2. Answer questions 1 and 2 and any other two questions

3. All questions have a total of 25 marks each

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

Question 1 and 2 are compulsory.

QUESTION 1

- a. Assessment and Learning: Power or Partnership? Broadfoot (1996). Explain three ways by which the teacher can use assessment as a source of Power. (6marks)
- b. Discuss the four broad dimensions which structure the relationship between Assessment and learning according to Crooks (1988). (15marks)
- c. Use specific examples to describe what is meant by “alternative assessment”. (4marks)

QUESTION 2

Quality assurance refers to the processes and procedures that systematically monitor different aspects of a **service, process or facility to detect, correct and ensure that quality standards are being met.** (Webster dictionary, 2014)

- a. Critically examine how the Examination Council of Swaziland (ECOS) has satisfied each of these requirements in the process of quality assurance. (15marks)
- b. Discuss the challenges facing ECOS in the process of ensuring quality assurance and suggest practical ways to overcome these challenges. (15marks).

Answer any two questions from the questions below.

QUESTION 3

- a. Identify five basic principles of Philosophy of educational assessment (5marks)
- b. Discuss critically how your teaching subject curriculum caters for each of the principles stated in (a). (15marks)
- c. Describe two factors that may constrain the achievement of the principles of philosophy of educational assessment for secondary school learners in Swaziland. (5marks).

QUESTION 4

- a. Distinguish between assessment and evaluation. (4mks)

b. Three main purposes of assessment as outlined by Black (1998) are:

Assessment for learning

Assessment as learning

Assessment of learning

Evaluate how assessment has been used to serve each of these purposes in Swaziland.
(21marks)

QUESTION 5

Standardized tests are better tools to diagnose and evaluate students' progress (MacMillan, 2004).

You have been appointed to be the chairperson of a committee to develop a standardized test for IGCSE in your teaching subject. Describe in detail the procedure you will follow to develop the test using specific example. A sample test is required. (25mks).

END OF EXAMINATION!!!