

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF EDUCATION



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND MANAGEMENT

FOR

INSTITUTE OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES

DECEMBER, 2015 FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.Ed)

COURSE CODE : EDF 650 AND  
EFM 601

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH DESIGN AND TECHNIQUES

TIME ALLOWED : THREE HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. THIS PAPER IS DIVIDED INTO **TWO SECTIONS (A AND B)**. ANSWER ANY **TWO** QUESTIONS FROM EACH SECTION  
2. UTILISE THE ATTACHED STATISTICAL FORMULAS AND TABLES WHERE NECESSARY.

TOTAL MARKS : 100

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

## SECTION A

1. Discuss the assertion that the quantitative research paradigm is not as applicable to educational research as the qualitative research paradigm. **Total: 25 Marks.**
2. "A research problem is at the heart of your research. If you do not have a problem then there is no research to be done". (Chiromo, 2006:6). Discuss. **Total: 25 Marks.**
3. Discuss the value of any five ethical considerations in educational research. **Total: 25 Marks.**

## SECTION B

4. Ten Form 4 pupils at a certain school wrote two tests, one in History and the other one in Mathematics. Table 1 below shows the results

**Table 1 showing the results obtained in History and Mathematics**

Pupil	History	Mathematics
A	80	40
B	74	52
C	56	75
D	52	74
E	78	50
F	90	54
G	73	59
H	65	60
I	40	71
J	75	48

- (a). Carry out a t-test at 1% significance level to determine if there is a difference between the form 4 pupils' academic performance in History and Mathematics and comment on the obtained t. **(20 marks)**
- (b). Compute the mean of History marks. **(1 mark)**
- (c). Calculate the median of the following marks below:  
**64 58 75 82 75 82 74 40 59 82 64 96** **(2 marks)**

(d). Deduce the standard deviation of the marks scored by students in Accounting examination which follow a normal distribution curve with a mean of 86 and a variance of 100. (2 marks)

*[Total: 25 Marks].*

5. Table 2 below shows marks obtained by pupils at Form Three in Agriculture and SiSwati.

Pupil	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Agriculture Score	62	71	72	62	74	83	54	78	67	57
SiSwati Score	63	61	51	62	58	48	75	57	60	75

(a). Using the above information calculate the Spearman's rank order correlation co-efficient and comment on it. (16 marks)

(b). Find the Standard Deviation of SiSwati scores. (6 marks)

(c). Locate the mode of Agriculture. (1 mark)

(d). State any two advantages of using the mean. (2 marks)

*[Total: 25 Marks].*

6. An educational researcher wanted to determine if there is an association between teachers' gender and attitudes towards within – class ability grouping. After undertaking a survey on a sample of 400 teachers. The following results emerged.

**Table 3: Showing teachers' gender and attitudes towards within – class ability grouping.**

	Attitudes towards	Within class ability	Grouping
GENDER	Favourable	Neutral	Negative
Female	94	60	46
Male	83	58	59

Carry out a chi-square test at 1% significance level to ascertain if teachers' attitudes towards within class ability grouping are independent of gender and comment on the results obtained.

**(Total: 25 marks)**

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**STATISTICAL FORMULAE**

Sample Variance:  $S^2 = \frac{\sum(x-\bar{x})^2}{n-1}$

Sample Standard Deviation:  $s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum(x-\bar{x})^2}{n-1}}$

Product moment correlation coefficient:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{n\sum xy - \sum x \sum y}{\sqrt{[n\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][n\sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$

Spearman's rank order correlation coefficient:  $rho = 1 - \frac{6\sum d^2}{n(n^2-1)}$

Chi-squared Test Statistic:  $\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$

Z-score:  $z = \frac{x-\bar{x}}{s}$

Standardisation:  $z = \frac{u-\mu}{\sigma}$  Where Z ~ N(0,1)

T-score:  $T = 50 + 10 \left(\frac{x-\bar{x}}{s}\right)$

Student t-test:  $t = \frac{\sqrt{(n-1)\sum d}}{\sqrt{n\sum d^2 - (\sum d)^2}}$

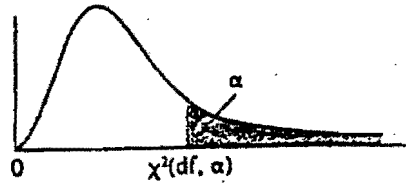
**Table 2** The entries in this table are the critical values for Student's *t* for an area of  $\alpha$  in the right-hand tail. Critical values for the left-hand tail are found by symmetry  
 Critical values of Student's *t* distribution



df	Amount of $\alpha$ in One-tail					
	0.25	0.10	0.05	0.025	0.01	0.005
1	1.000	3.08	6.31	12.7	31.8	63.7
2	0.816	1.89	2.92	4.30	6.97	9.92
3	0.765	1.64	2.35	3.18	4.54	5.84
4	0.741	1.53	2.13	2.78	3.75	4.60
5	0.727	1.48	2.02	2.57	3.37	4.03
6	0.718	1.44	1.94	2.45	3.14	3.71
7	0.711	1.42	1.89	2.36	3.00	3.50
8	0.706	1.40	1.86	2.31	2.90	3.36
9	0.703	1.38	1.83	2.26	2.82	3.25
10	0.700	1.37	1.81	2.23	2.76	3.17
11	0.697	1.36	1.80	2.20	2.72	3.11
12	0.695	1.36	1.78	2.18	2.68	3.05
13	0.694	1.35	1.77	2.16	2.65	3.01
14	0.692	1.35	1.76	2.14	2.62	2.98
15	0.691	1.34	1.75	2.13	2.60	2.95
16	0.690	1.34	1.75	2.12	2.58	2.92
17	0.689	1.33	1.74	2.11	2.57	2.90
18	0.688	1.33	1.73	2.10	2.55	2.88
19	0.688	1.33	1.73	2.09	2.54	2.86
20	0.687	1.33	1.72	2.09	2.53	2.85
21	0.686	1.32	1.72	2.08	2.52	2.83
22	0.686	1.32	1.72	2.07	2.51	2.82
23	0.685	1.32	1.71	2.07	2.50	2.81
24	0.685	1.32	1.71	2.06	2.49	2.80
25	0.684	1.32	1.71	2.06	2.49	2.79
26	0.684	1.32	1.71	2.06	2.48	2.78
27	0.684	1.31	1.70	2.05	2.47	2.77
28	0.683	1.31	1.70	2.05	2.47	2.76
29	0.683	1.31	1.70	2.05	2.46	2.76
$\infty$	0.674	1.28	1.65	1.96	2.33	2.58

NOTE: For  $df \geq 30$ , the critical value  $t(df, \alpha)$  is approximated by  $z(\alpha)$ , given in the bottom row of table.

**Table 3** The entries in this table are the critical values for chi square for which the area to the right under the curve is equal to  $\alpha$ .  
**Critical values of the  $\chi^2$  distribution**



df	Amount of $\alpha$ in Right-hand Tail									
	0.995	0.990	0.975	0.950	0.900	0.100	0.050	0.025	0.010	0.005
1	0.0000393	0.000157	0.000982	0.00393	0.0158	2.71	3.84	5.02	6.63	7.88
2	0.0100	0.0201	0.0506	0.103	0.211	4.61	6.00	7.38	9.21	10.6
3	0.0717	0.115	0.216	0.352	0.584	6.25	7.82	9.35	11.4	12.9
4	0.207	0.297	0.484	0.711	1.0636	7.78	9.50	11.1	13.3	14.9
5	0.412	0.554	0.831	1.15	1.61	9.24	11.1	12.8	15.1	16.8
6	0.676	0.872	1.24	1.64	2.20	10.6	12.6	14.5	16.8	18.6
7	0.990	1.24	1.69	2.17	2.83	12.0	14.1	16.0	18.5	20.3
8	1.34	1.65	2.18	2.73	3.49	13.4	15.5	17.5	20.1	22.0
9	1.73	2.09	2.70	3.33	4.17	14.7	17.0	19.0	21.7	23.6
10	2.16	2.56	3.25	3.94	4.87	16.0	18.3	20.5	23.2	25.2
11	2.60	3.05	3.82	4.58	5.58	17.2	19.7	21.9	24.7	26.8
12	3.07	3.57	4.40	5.23	6.30	18.6	21.0	23.3	26.2	28.3
13	3.57	4.11	5.01	5.90	7.04	19.8	22.4	24.7	27.7	29.8
14	4.07	4.66	5.63	6.57	7.79	21.1	23.7	26.1	29.1	31.3
15	4.60	5.23	6.26	7.26	8.55	22.3	25.0	27.5	30.6	32.8
16	5.14	5.81	6.91	7.96	9.31	23.5	26.3	28.9	32.0	34.3
17	5.70	6.41	7.56	8.67	10.1	24.8	27.6	30.2	33.4	35.7
18	6.26	7.01	8.23	9.39	10.9	26.0	28.9	31.5	34.8	37.2
19	6.84	7.63	8.91	10.1	11.7	27.2	30.1	32.9	36.2	38.6
20	7.43	8.26	9.59	10.9	12.4	28.4	31.4	34.2	37.6	40.0
21	8.03	8.90	10.3	11.6	13.2	29.6	32.7	35.5	39.0	41.4
22	8.64	9.54	11.0	12.3	14.0	30.8	33.9	36.8	40.3	42.8
23	9.26	10.2	11.0	13.1	14.9	32.0	35.2	38.1	41.6	44.2
24	9.89	10.9	12.4	13.9	15.7	33.2	36.4	39.4	43.0	45.6
25	10.5	11.5	13.1	14.6	16.5	34.4	37.7	40.7	44.3	46.9
26	11.2	12.2	13.8	15.4	17.3	35.6	38.9	41.9	45.6	48.3
27	11.8	12.9	14.6	16.2	18.1	36.7	40.1	43.2	47.0	49
28	12.5	13.6	15.3	16.9	18.9	37.9	41.3	44.5	48.3	51.0
29	13.1	14.3	16.1	17.7	19.8	39.1	42.6	45.7	49.6	52.3
30	13.8	15.0	16.8	18.5	20.6	40.3	43.8	47.0	50.9	53.7
40	20.7	22.2	24.4	26.5	29.1	51.8	55.8	59.3	63.7	66.8
50	28.0	29.7	32.4	34.8	37.7	63.2	67.5	71.4	76.2	79.5
60	35.5	37.5	40.5	43.2	46.5	74.4	79.1	83.3	88.4	92.0
70	43.3	45.4	48.8	51.8	55.3	85.5	90.5	95.0	100.0	104.0
80	51.2	53.5	57.2	60.4	64.3	96.6	102.0	107.0	112.0	116.0
90	59.2	61.8	65.7	69.1	73.3	108.0	113.0	118.0	124.0	128.0
100	67.3	70.1	74.2	77.9	82.4	114.0	124.0	130.0	136.0	140.0



5% Significance level.

Degrees of Freedom for Denominator	Degrees of Freedom for Numerator										Degrees of Freedom for Numerator								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	$\infty$
1	161	200	216	225	230	234	237	239	241	242	244	246	248	249	250	251	252	253	254
2	18.5	19.0	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5	19.5
3	10.1	9.55	9.28	9.12	9.01	8.94	8.89	8.85	8.81	8.79	8.74	8.70	8.66	8.64	8.62	8.59	8.57	8.55	8.53
4	7.71	6.94	6.59	6.39	6.26	6.16	6.09	6.04	6.00	5.96	5.91	5.86	5.80	5.77	5.75	5.72	5.69	5.66	5.63
5	6.61	5.79	5.41	5.19	5.05	4.95	4.88	4.82	4.77	4.74	4.68	4.62	4.56	4.53	4.50	4.46	4.43	4.40	4.37
6	5.99	5.14	4.76	4.53	4.39	4.28	4.21	4.15	4.10	4.06	4.00	3.94	3.87	3.84	3.81	3.77	3.74	3.70	3.67
7	5.59	4.74	4.35	4.12	3.97	3.87	3.79	3.73	3.68	3.64	3.57	3.51	3.44	3.41	3.38	3.34	3.30	3.27	3.23
8	5.32	4.46	4.07	3.84	3.69	3.58	3.50	3.44	3.39	3.35	3.28	3.22	3.15	3.12	3.08	3.04	3.01	2.97	2.93
9	5.12	4.26	3.86	3.63	3.48	3.37	3.29	3.23	3.18	3.14	3.07	3.01	2.94	2.90	2.86	2.83	2.79	2.75	2.71
10	4.96	4.10	3.71	3.48	3.33	3.22	3.14	3.07	3.02	2.98	2.91	2.85	2.77	2.74	2.70	2.66	2.62	2.58	2.54
11	4.84	3.98	3.59	3.36	3.20	3.09	3.01	2.95	2.90	2.85	2.79	2.72	2.65	2.61	2.57	2.53	2.49	2.45	2.40
12	4.75	3.89	3.49	3.26	3.11	3.00	2.91	2.85	2.80	2.75	2.69	2.62	2.54	2.51	2.47	2.43	2.38	2.34	2.30
13	4.67	3.81	3.41	3.18	3.03	2.92	2.83	2.77	2.71	2.67	2.60	2.53	2.46	2.42	2.38	2.34	2.30	2.25	2.21
14	4.60	3.74	3.34	3.11	2.96	2.85	2.76	2.70	2.65	2.60	2.53	2.46	2.39	2.35	2.31	2.27	2.22	2.18	2.13
15	4.54	3.68	3.29	3.06	2.90	2.79	2.71	2.64	2.59	2.54	2.48	2.40	2.33	2.29	2.25	2.20	2.16	2.11	2.07
16	4.49	3.63	3.24	3.01	2.85	2.74	2.66	2.59	2.54	2.49	2.42	2.35	2.28	2.24	2.19	2.15	2.11	2.06	2.01
17	4.45	3.59	3.20	2.96	2.81	2.70	2.61	2.55	2.49	2.45	2.38	2.31	2.23	2.19	2.15	2.10	2.06	2.01	1.96
18	4.41	3.55	3.16	2.93	2.77	2.66	2.58	2.51	2.46	2.41	2.34	2.27	2.19	2.15	2.11	2.06	2.02	1.97	1.92
19	4.38	3.52	3.13	2.90	2.74	2.63	2.54	2.48	2.42	2.38	2.31	2.23	2.16	2.11	2.07	2.03	1.98	1.93	1.88
20	4.35	3.49	3.10	2.87	2.71	2.60	2.51	2.45	2.39	2.35	2.28	2.20	2.12	2.08	2.04	1.99	1.95	1.90	1.84
21	4.32	3.47	3.07	2.84	2.68	2.57	2.49	2.42	2.37	2.32	2.25	2.18	2.10	2.05	2.01	1.96	1.92	1.87	1.81
22	4.30	3.44	3.05	2.82	2.66	2.55	2.46	2.40	2.34	2.30	2.23	2.15	2.07	2.03	1.98	1.94	1.89	1.84	1.78
23	4.28	3.42	3.03	2.80	2.64	2.53	2.44	2.37	2.32	2.27	2.20	2.13	2.05	2.01	1.96	1.91	1.86	1.81	1.76
24	4.26	3.40	3.01	2.78	2.62	2.51	2.42	2.36	2.30	2.25	2.18	2.11	2.03	1.98	1.94	1.89	1.84	1.79	1.73
25	4.24	3.39	2.99	2.76	2.60	2.49	2.40	2.34	2.28	2.24	2.16	2.09	2.01	1.96	1.92	1.87	1.82	1.77	1.71
30	4.17	3.32	2.92	2.69	2.53	2.42	2.33	2.27	2.21	2.16	2.09	2.01	1.93	1.89	1.84	1.79	1.74	1.68	1.62
40	4.08	3.23	2.84	2.61	2.45	2.34	2.25	2.18	2.12	2.08	2.00	1.92	1.84	1.79	1.74	1.69	1.64	1.58	1.51
60	4.00	3.15	2.76	2.53	2.37	2.25	2.17	2.10	2.04	1.99	1.92	1.84	1.75	1.70	1.65	1.59	1.53	1.47	1.39
120	3.92	3.07	2.68	2.45	2.29	2.18	2.09	2.02	1.96	1.91	1.83	1.75	1.66	1.61	1.55	1.50	1.43	1.35	1.25
$\infty$	3.84	3.00	2.60	2.37	2.21	2.10	2.01	1.94	1.88	1.83	1.75	1.67	1.57	1.52	1.46	1.39	1.32	1.22	1.00