



UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
Faculty of Health Sciences

DIPLOMA IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER 2007/2008

TITLE OF PAPER	:	RESEARCH METHODS
COURSE CODE	:	HSC 306
DURATION	:	2 HOURS
MARKS	:	100
INSTRUCTIONS	:	READ THE QUESTIONS & INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY
	:	ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS
	:	EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.
	:	WRITE NEATLY & CLEARLY
	:	NO PAPER SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO NOR OUT OF THE EXAMINATION ROOM.
	:	BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.

DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1

- a. What is research (5 marks)
- b. Describe the two major purposes of research in health (10 marks)
- c. Discuss the following as areas of concern in public health research (10 marks)
 - (i) Direct services
 - (ii) Administration and management

QUESTION 2

- a. List the SEVEN key steps chronologically in preparing a research proposal (21 marks)
- b. Discuss any TWO conditions to be considered for a problem to be researched on (4 marks)

QUESTION 3

- a. Give THREE reasons why it is necessary to systematically analyze a research problem (question) and involve all stakeholders (9 marks)
- b. Give THREE types of questions to be asked in public health research (6 marks)
- c. Mention the FIVE different levels of sources of information in literature review (5 marks)

QUESTION 4

- a. What are the EIGHT key elements to be addressed in a research methodology (16 marks)
- b. Mention THREE factors that will influence decision on the focus and scope of research (9 marks)

QUESTION 5

- a. What is a variable and give an example (5 marks)
- b. Make a distinction between dependent and independent variables (10 marks)
- c. What is a confounding variable (5 marks)
- d. Describe Case-control studies (5 Marks)

QUESTION 6

Discuss FIVE techniques of data collection (25 marks)