

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
INSTITUTE OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION, DECEMBER
2017

TITLE OF PAPER: RESEARCH METHODS IN HISTORY

COURSE CODE: HIS601

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED PERMISSION.

1. (a) Do historians need oral sources for every historical essay?
(b) Critically examine the problems associated with the exploitation of oral sources for historical reconstruction and how these problems can be overcome [25 marks] .

2. Evaluate the relevance of Leopold von Ranke in the development of modern historiography. [25 marks]

3. What do you understand by plagiarism and why should it be a matter of concern to all scholars? [25 marks]

4. Examine the way “truth” and “objectivity” function within the discipline of history. [25 marks]

5. What are the guiding principles that a history scholar should respect in choosing a research topic? [25 marks]