

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
SECOND SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATION, MAY 2014

**COURSE CODE: TRS 300**  
**COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**  
**DURATION: 2HRS**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Choose and answer three (3) questions in all.
- b. Write in clear and grammatically correct sentences.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR  
GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO.**

**Question 1**

Identify and discuss the characteristics that distinguish research from other information-seeking activities.

[25]

**Question 2**

What is triangulation? Illustrate through an example of a proposed study how you would triangulate. [25]

**Question 3**

Explain how the following actions defeat the purposes of research:

- Data fabrication
- Data falsification
- Plagiarism

[25]

**Question 4**

Identify and discuss some factors which determine the feasibility of any proposed investigation? [25]

**Question 5**

Describe the role of literature review in a research proposal. [25]

**Question 6**

Explain why it is appropriate to view the obtaining of participants' informed consent is regarded as a process. [25]

**Question 7**

What is the importance of reflexivity and iteration during the process of empirical research? [25]

**Question 8**

The table below contains pieces of data from different studies. Draw a similar table and enter the information as it is on the left column, then proceed to appropriately fill in the analysis information against each reported data. [25]

<b>Reported data</b>	<b>Analysis/interpretation</b>
Out of a representative sample of 700 students on campus 680 indicated that they had stopped going to church since they started attending university	
Most of the people in a particular organisation have worked there for between 15 and 25 years	
Most HIV+ clients at a VCT clinic reported they felt a sense of relieve after they disclosed their status to a family member or a close friend	
Over a 4 year period it has been observed that students register complaints about lack of study space at the library during examination time	
Every time a horrible road traffic accident in which a large number of people are killed occurs in Swaziland there are impromptu public prayers held at the accident site	

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