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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2005**

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY

COURSE NUMBER : GEP 323

TIME ALLOWED : THREE HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.

2. QUESTION ONE IS COMPULSORY.

**3. ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM
SECTION B.**

**4. WHERE APPROPRIATE, ILLUSTRATE
YOUR ANSWER WITH EXAMPLES.**

**MARK ALLOCATION : QUESTION ONE IS WORTH FORTY (40)
MARKS AND THE OTHER QUESTIONS
THIRTY (30) MARKS EACH.**

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

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION (40 MARKS)

QUESTION 1

Suppose a community establishes an alcohol-and drug-free teenager center as a way of reducing the use of alcohol and drugs by teenagers.

- a) Describe how you might go about evaluating the effectiveness of the center. (20 Marks)
- b) Explain whether your design would be experimental, quasi-experimental, qualitative, or a combination of these. (20 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS.

QUESTION 2

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of surveys in relation to experiments. (30 marks)

QUESTION 3

Using examples, explain how the pre-test-post-test control design adequately controls for each of the major threats to internal validity. (30 marks)

QUESTION 4

- a) Distinguish between cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys. (10 marks)
- b) Using examples, explain how interviews provide greater flexibility than self-administered questionnaires. (20 marks)

QUESTION 5

- a) Describe four considerations affecting the selection of a sampling design and indicate how each affects design selection. (16 marks)
- b) Identify three factors to consider in determining sample size, and explain how each factor affects the decision about sample size. (14 marks)