

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND PLANNING
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2013

B.A, BASS, B.Sc. and B.Ed.

- TITLE OF PAPER** : **RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY**
- COURSE TITLE** : **GEP 323**
- TIME ALLOWED** : **THREE HOURS**
- INSTRUCTIONS** : **1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
2. QUESTION 1 IS COMPULSORY.
ANSWER ANY TWO (2) QUESTIONS FROM SECTION
B.
3. WHERE APPROPRIATE, ILLUSTRATE YOUR
ANSWER WITH DIAGRAMS.
- MARK ALLOCATION** : **QUESTION ONE (1) CARRIES 40 MARKS THE REST**
OF THE QUESTIONS CARRY 30 MARKS.

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

GEP 323 RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION

QUESTION 1

“Ethical issues arise in social research when conflicts occur between societal values such as freedom and privacy and scientific methods aimed at obtaining the highest-quality data.... Some areas of potential conflict area: harm to participants, involuntary participation, intentional deception, and an invasion of privacy.” (Singleton and Straits, 2010:63)

- (a) Discuss the validity of this statement. (20 marks)
- (b) Identify and explain three types of misconduct that may arise in the conduct of research. (12 marks)
- (c) Distinguish between anonymity and confidentiality. (8 marks)
- [40 MARKS]**

SECTION B: ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION

QUESTION 2

- (a) Compare and contrast cross-sectional and longitudinal studies. (10 marks)
- (b) Using your own research study, describe the study (in terms of problem statement, objectives, study area) and explain how you have addressed the ‘time-dimension.’ (20 marks)
- [30 MARKS]**

QUESTION 3

- (a) Explain the steps involved in carrying out a literature review. (12 marks)
- (b) How wide or narrow should a literature review be? (6 marks)
- (c) Discuss four indicators of a ‘good literature’ review. (12 marks)
- [30 MARKS]**

QUESTION 4

Using examples, discuss the major steps in the research process. **[30 MARKS]**

QUESTION 5

Compare and contrast evaluation and pre-experimental research designs. **[30 MARKS]**