

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND PLANNING

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2014

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

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY

COURSE NUMBER : 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  
EACH.

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**

- a) Discuss clearly the logic of understanding variables in a research study. (10 marks)
- b) Discuss the three criteria necessary to establish causality in the social sciences. (10 marks)
- c) Using examples, explain the types of variables a researcher has to consider when undertaking a research study. (20 marks)

**[40 MARKS]****SECTION B: ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION****QUESTION 2**

- a) Explain what is meant by the 'measurement process' in research. (10 marks)
- b) Using examples, discuss two basic types of measurement errors that can occur in a research study. (20 marks)

**[30 MARKS]****QUESTION 3**

- a) Explain the concepts of sampling error and non-sampling error. (15 marks)
- b) Using examples distinguish between stratified and cluster sampling. (15 marks)

**[30 MARKS]****QUESTION 4**

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

**QUESTION 5**

Compare and contrast survey research and evaluation research. **[30 MARKS]**