UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER

TITLE OF PAPER: RESEARCH METHODS

COURSE CODE: SOC 201

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

(1)   Answer Any Four (4) Questions
(2)   All Questions Carry Equal Marks

Q1.   Discuss the importance of carrying out literature review in research.

Q2.   Describe the various steps involved in conducting research.

Q3.   Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of open-ended and closed-ended questions.

Q4.   Explain the major differences between basic and applied research.

Q5.   Choose a topic of interest and develop two research questions for it. For each research question specify the units of analysis and universe.

Q6.   What are focus groups? How does one constitute focus groups? Describe the phases involved in conducting focus group discussions.

Q7.   Describe the differences between Mean, Median and Mode.

Calculate the three measures for the following data:
Anxiety Scores of Students Taking a Statistics Course

Intervals	Frequency
1 - 10	8
11 - 20	15
21 - 30	20
31 - 40	21
41 - 50	10
51 - 60	6

Q8.   Following are the **rankings** which three judges gave to the work of ten artisits.

Judge A:	5	8	4	2	3	1	10	7	9	6
Judge B:	3	10	1	4	2	5	6	7	8	9
Judge C:	8	5	6	4	10	2	3	1	7	9

Calculate the rank order correlation for each pair of rankings and decide which two judges are most alike in their opinions about these artists; which two judges differ the most in their opinions about these artists.

SOC 201

arithmetic mean $= \dfrac{\Sigma fx}{\Sigma f}$

Median $= L + \left(\dfrac{\frac{N}{2} - nb}{nw}\right) \times i$

1st Quartile $= L + \dfrac{\frac{N}{4} - nb}{nw} \times i$

3rd Quartile $= L + \dfrac{\frac{3N}{4} - nb}{nw} \times i$

Standard Deviation $\Big\}$ $S = \sqrt{\dfrac{\Sigma f (x - \bar{x})^2}{N-1}}$

$\text{OR } S = \sqrt{\dfrac{N\Sigma x^2 - (\Sigma fx)^2}{N(N-1)}}$

Rank order correlation $\Big\}$ $rho = 1 - \dfrac{6 \Sigma D^2}{N(N^2 - 1)}$

students are expected to know what these symbols stand for.