

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

FINAL 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**

1. How is a proposal to conduct research similar to and different from a final research report?
2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of open-ended versus closed-ended questions? Identify five things to avoid in formulating questions.
3. Compare differences between a field research and survey research interview, and between a field interview and a friendly conversation.
4. If you were conducting an interview survey of 500 people in Manzini, what type of probability sample would you choose and why?
5. Why are ethical issues important in relation to the conduct of social research?
6. (a) Describe the differences between independent, dependent and intervening variables.
 (b) Identify the variables in the following hypotheses:
 - (i) The higher the religious attendance, the lower the likelihood of divorce.
 - (ii) The number of kilometres a person drives in a year affects the number of visits the person makes to filling stations, and there is a positive unidirectional relationship.
7. Describe the differences between Mean, Median and Mode.
 Calculate the three measures for the following data:

Anxiety Scores of Students Taking a Statistics Course

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

8. A sample survey, designed to show where persons living in different parts of the country buy non-prescribed medicines, yielded the following results:

	Hhohho	Manzini	Lubombo	Shiselweni
Drugstores	218	200	183	179
Grocery stores	39	52	87	62
Others	43	48	30	59

Use the level of significance $\alpha = 0.05$ to test the null hypothesis that, so far as non-prescribed medicines are concerned, the buying habits of persons living in the four regions of the country are the same.