UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2011

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

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

Q.1 What makes a good hypothesis? Identify the independent and dependent variables in the following hypotheses and operationalize them.

(i) Two groups of children were given different types of physical fitness programmes to determine whether the programmes had an effect on their strength.

(ii) A university professor was interested in determining the best way to teach Introduction to Sociology course and ensure that his students would learn the material.

Q.2 Explain the ethical issues in Milgram, Humphreys and Zimbardo experiments.

Q.3 What is content analysis? Discuss the steps involved in doing content analysis giving examples.

Q.4 Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using closed-ended and open-ended questions.

Q.5 Discuss the advantages of using samples and describe the types of non-probability sampling techniques.

Q.6 Describe the differences between mean, median and mode. Calculate the mean, median and mode for the following groups:

Group I	Group II
2	6
2	4
2	20
8	6
6	14
9	10

Q.7 Calculate the rank order correlation for the following data and interpret your result.

Length of Marriage in years:	8	9	3	12	18	21	4
Assessment of Marital Harmony:	51	40	33	72	99	88	12

Q.8 Write notes on any four of the following:

(i) Quasi-experimental designs
(ii) Secondary data
(iii) Survey research
(iv) Participant observation
(v) Triangulation
(vi) Stratified sampling

SOC 201

arithmetic mean $\bar{X} = \frac{\Sigma fx}{\Sigma f}$ OR $\frac{\Sigma x}{N}$

Medwan $= L + \frac{\frac{N}{2} - nb}{nw} \times i$

rank order correlation rho $= 1 - \frac{6\Sigma D^2}{N(N^2-1)}$

Use these for Supplementary Examination 2011 July.