

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2014

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
3. TOTAL MARKS 100
4. USE PROVIDED TABLES AND FORMULA
5. USE YOUR CALCULATORS

THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

**SOC 201 RESEARCH METHODS** (Supplementary July 2014)

- Q. 1 Describe the characteristics of a good hypothesis. Identify the independent and dependent variables in the following hypotheses and operationalize them.
- (a) Two groups of men were given different types of physical fitness programmes to determine whether the programmes had an effect on their strength.
  - (b) A high school teacher was interested in determining the best way to teach life sciences and ensure that his students would learn the material.
- Q. 2 Explain the difference between open-ended and closed-ended questions by giving examples. Explain their merits and demerits.
- Q. 3 Why is ethics important in research? Explain the ethical issues in Miligram and Zimbardo experiments.
- Q. 4 Discuss the various steps involved in conducting out interviews.
- Q. 5 For what types of research questions is content analysis appropriate? Discuss the units of analysis used in content analysis.
- Q. 6 Describe the differences between mean, median and mode. Calculate the mean, median and mode for the following groups:

<u>GROUP I</u>	<u>GROUP II</u>
2	6
2	4
2	20
8	6
6	14
10	10

- Q. 7 State whether the following hypotheses are correlational in nature.
- (a) There are no differences in cognitive ability between pre-school children in child care settings and pre-school children who are cared for at home.
  - (b) There is no relationship between parents' education, socioeconomic status, and children's achievement levels in mathematics.
  - (c) There is no relationship between the rate of violent crime in Manzini and socioeconomic status.

- (d) Calculate the rank order correlation for the following data. Interpret your results.

<u>Length of Marriage in Years</u>	<u>Assessment of Marital Harmony</u>
8	51
9	40
3	33
12	72
18	99
21	88
4	12