UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2016

TITLE OF PAPER:	RESEARCH METHODS
COURSE CODE:	SOC 201
TIME ALLOWED:	THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

2. EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 25 MARKS

3. TOTAL MARKS 100

4. YOU MAY USE A CALCULATOR.

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

Q. 1   Using examples discuss the importance of ethical issues in research.   25 marks

Q. 2   (a) How does research transform a concept into a variable?   10 marks

(b) Operationalize the following: 15 marks

(i) Street Vendor   (ii) UNISWA Student   (iii) Poverty
(iv) AIDS   (v) Unemployment

Q.3   Outline the steps in the process of carrying out sociological research.   25 marks

Q. 4   When is nonprobability sampling justified? Describe the types of nonprobability sampling techniques.   25 marks

Q. 5   Explain the functions of gate keepers and key informants in relation to gaining access to formal organizations. Describe the basic approaches to gaining access to:
(a) Formal organizations   (b) public settings, and (c) private settings
25 marks

Q. 6   Discuss the factors that influence topic selection in research and the importance of carrying out literature review in writing research proposals. 25 marks

Q. 7   Explain the concept of correlation. Calculate the rank correlation from the following data: 25 marks

Series A: 115 109 112   87   98   98   120   100   98   118

Series B: 75   73   85   70   76   65   82   73   68   80

Q. 8   Bricks made in two kilns have been graded as facings (high quality), seconds (medium quality) and commons (rather poor quality). The production of bricks in a particular period was as follows (in thousands of units):

	Facings	Seconds	Commons	Total
Kiln A:	24	43	13	80
Kiln B:	31	57	32	120

It is the policy of the business to produce bricks of the highest quality possible and the number of seconds and commons produced is due to the efficiency or inefficiency of the process. Use the Chi-square test to determine whether the manager of Kiln A is justified in claiming that he produces bricks of higher quality than his counterpart at Kiln B.   25 marks