UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER 2008

TITLE OF PAPER   :   RESEARCH METHODS

COURSE CODE   :   ST332

TIME ALLOWED   :   2 (TWO) HOURS

REQUIRMENTS   :   NONE

INSTRUCTIONS   :   ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS.
                             ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

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

ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE.   [10 + 15 marks]

1.1   Discuss the advantages of the three modes of data collection.

1.2   Produce a summary table for comparison of those modes you discussed in part 1.1.

QUESTION TWO.   [10 + 15 marks]

2.1   State and discuss the criteria used in evaluating the significance of the selected research problem.

2.2   List all important components, in proper sequences, of writing a research proposal.

QUESTION THREE.   [10 + 15 marks]

3.1   You know that the reviewing of previous research in the formulation of a new research problem is very useful. Discuss.

3.2   Suppose you want to conduct a survey among students of your university about their awareness of environmental pollution in Swaziland. Give a title for the above study and describe the steps and decisions involved in selecting the sample.

QUESTION FOUR.   [10 + 15 marks]

4.1   State and define three basic probability sampling techniques and three basic non-probability sampling techniques.

4.2   Discuss the main advantages and disadvantages of probability sampling over non-probability sampling.

QUESTION FIVE.   [4x5 = 20 marks]

Discuss the following terms:

5.1   Statement of the Problem.
5.2   Objective of the Study.
5.3   Probability Sampling.
5.4   Measurement Scales.
5.5   Conclusions of the Study