UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS & DEMOGRAPHY

FINAL EXAMINATION, 2014

BASS

TITLE OF PAPER: RESEARCH TECHNIQUES IN DEMOGRAPHY

COURSE CODE: DEM 305

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

MARKS ALLOCATION: ALL QUESTIONS CARRY 20 MARKS

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: NONE

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

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Question: 1

a) Different modes of knowledge acquisition may be used, i.e. Authoritarian, Mystic, and Rationalistic. Discuss these modes   [12 points]

b) Discuss fully, using examples, the Inductive and Deductive Approaches in Social Science research   .   [8 points]

Question: 2

Conceptual and Theoretical Frameworks are often used in research to help guide researchers to credible and scholastic conclusions. Discuss what they are, how they may differ and their role in research.

[20 points]

Question: 3

a)   What are Spurious Relationships   [8 points]

b)   Describe the following:

    i) Dependent and Independent variables   [2 points]
    ii) Control variables   [2 points]
    iii) Continuous and Discrete variables   [2 points]
    iv) Nominal variables   [2 points]
    v) Ordinal variables   [2 points]
    vi) Interval variables and Ratio variables   [2 points]

Question: 4

Background variables influence dependent variables through intermediate/proximate variables. Present a fictitious example of such a relationship

20 points

Question: 5

a)   List and briefly discuss any three common mistakes that need to be avoided when formulating questionnaires   [12 points]

b)   Data Limitation and Research Limitations may be perceived to be similar in research yet they are different. Discuss how they differ using an example of each.   [8 points]