1ST SEM. 2010/11

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

PROGRAMME : YEAR III: FSNT, COS, COSE, TADM

COURSE CODE : COS 301

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER QUESTION ONE (1)
AND ANY OTHER TWO (2) QUESTIONS

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GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

QUESTION ONE – [COMPULSORY]

a. Explain the terms: experimental and non-experimental research and give an example of each with justification.   (8 marks)

b. You are conducting research on effects of family upbringing on aggressive behaviour in boys between 12 to 15 years. Give any four ethical considerations you need to have in place to protect the dignity of your respondents.   (8 marks)

c. In 2001, Nanua, J.N. as main author published a paper in the Journal of Dairy Science Volume 83. The co-authors were McGregor, J.U. and Godber, J.S. and the title of the paper was: '**Influence of high-oryzanol rice bran oil on oxidative stability of whole milk powder**'. The paper was printed on page 2426 to 2431 of the journal. Write this information as it should appear in the reference section of a research report. (8 marks)

d. What type of data would you normally use X^2 (Chi square) and 'T test' in data presentation?   (8 Marks)

e. Briefly explain the meaning of the terms ($P < 0.05$) and $P < 0.01$) in declaring difference between two means.   (8 marks)

[TOTAL 40 MARKS]

QUESTION TWO

a. Discuss the relationships and the importance of problem statement, literature review and hypotheses in research.

(20 marks)

b. What do you understand by primary and secondary sources of information in research?

(5 marks)

c. What is plagiarism?

(5 marks)

[TOTAL 30 MARKS]

QUESTION THREE

a. Briefly describe the characteristics of a "good questionnaire" in social science research

(20 marks)

b. Discuss the concept of reliability and validity of a research instrument. (10 marks)

[TOTAL 30 MARKS]

QUESTION FOUR

Briefly describe and give appropriate examples of:

a. Case study   (10 marks)

b. Longitudinal study   (10 marks)

c. Cross sectional study   (10 marks)

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