

1<sup>ST</sup> SEM. 2011/12

UNIVERSITY



OF SWAZILAND

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER**

- PROGRAMME** : **YEAR III: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN:**
- **FOOD SCIENCE, NUTRITION AND TECHNOLOGY**
  - **CONSUMER SCIENCE**
  - **CONSUMER SCIENCE EDUCATION**
  - **TEXTILES, APPAREL DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT**
- 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**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN  
GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

**QUESTION FOUR**

- a. What is the difference between validity and reliability of a research instrument?  
(8 marks)
- b. Define construct, criterion and content validity  
(8 marks)
- c. Describe ways of improving the reliability of a research instrument  
(14 marks)

**[TOTAL 30 MARKS]**

**QUESTION ONE – [COMPULSORY]**

- a. What do you understand by the terms: basic research, applied research and action research? Give appropriate examples for each.  
(12 marks)
- b. Define null and alternative hypothesis. Which one refers more to the population and which one refers to the sample?  
(8 marks)
- c. Discuss the relationship between a community problem and a research problem that is generated from the community problem.  
(10 marks)
- d. What is plagiarism and how is it avoided during literature review?  
(10 marks)

**[TOTAL 40 MARKS]**

**QUESTION TWO**

- a. Discuss the difference between, and the challenges encountered during, cross-sectional and longitudinal studies.  
(20 marks)
- b. Give five characteristics of a good research project  
(10 marks)

**[TOTAL 30 MARKS]**

**QUESTION THREE**

- a. Describe any three types of probability sampling and one non-probability sampling techniques.  
(20 marks)
- b. Discuss the factors that influence the sample size chosen for a sample survey research.  
(10 marks)

**[TOTAL 30 MARKS]**