



1ST SEM. 2012/13

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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER**

**PROGRAM : BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN FSNT, COS,
COSE AND TADM, YEAR III**

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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THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)

- (a) Outline the steps in the research process. (10 Marks)
- (b) Describe **five (5)** ethical issues while conducting research. (2 x 5 = 10 Marks)
- (c) Describe **five (5)** key features of action research. (2 x 5 = 10 Marks)
- (d) Discuss the principles of experimental design. (10 Marks)

[TOTAL MARKS = 40]

QUESTION 2

- (a) Describe the different classes of scales and give examples for each. (12 Marks)
- (b) Explain the characteristics required of a secondary data to be used for research. (10 Marks)
- (c) What are the disadvantages of focus group study? (8 Marks)

[TOTAL MARKS = 30]

QUESTION 3

- (a) Define validity and explain the different types of validity. (15 Marks)
- (b) Describe the following: (5 x 3 = 15 Marks)
 - i. Explanatory designs
 - ii. Exploratory designs
 - iii. Triangulation designs

[TOTAL MARKS: 30]

QUESTION 4

- (a) Define reliability and explain the different types of reliability tests. (15 Marks)
- (b) Explain the following: (5 x 3 = 15 Marks)
 - i. Factorial Experiment
 - ii. Dependent variable
 - iii. Ex post facto research design

[TOTAL MARKS = 30]