



1ST SEM. 2014/15

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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY 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**

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

QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)

- (a) Name **four (4)** types of quantitative non-experimental research designs and discuss any one. **(16 Marks)**
- (b) In the seven step approach, describe the phases of action research. **(14 Marks)**
- (c) Describe the limitations of cross-sectional research. **(10 Marks)**

[TOTAL MARKS = 40]

QUESTION 2

- (a) Outline **five (5)** attributes of a weak/bad research proposal. **(10 Marks)**
- (b) Define action research and outline its aims **(10 Marks)**
- (c) State the importance of setting hypothesis in the research process **(10 Marks)**

[TOTAL MARKS = 30]

QUESTION 3

- (a) Outline the components of a research proposal and explain any **two (2)**. **(15 Marks)**
- (b) Make a distinction between validity and reliability of an instrument. **(15 Marks)**

[TOTAL MARKS = 30]

QUESTION 4

- (a) Discuss the importance of replication and blocking in experimental research. **(10 Marks)**
- (b) Write short notes on the following: **(5 x 4 = 20 Marks)**
 - i. Latin square design
 - ii. Test/retest reliability
 - iii. Plagiarism
 - iv. Disguised observation

[TOTAL MARKS = 30]