



1ST SEM. 2007/2008

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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

**PROGRAMME : BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
FSNT, HE, HEE and TADM YEAR III**

COURSE CODE : HE 301

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

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

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GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

QUESTION 1 [COMPULSORY]

- (a) In qualitative what key question can guide a researcher in determining the type of information to be gathered for each research method discussed in class.
[12 marks]
- (b) The use of research questions, hypothesis and objectives depends on the nature of the study. State and define the appropriate research type/form to use for each of the above and give an example for each.
[12 marks]
- (c) In conducting a study on the nutritional assessment of children from one to six years in Swaziland, you need to sample the population. Define sampling and explain the different sampling methods that can be utilized in order to make generalizations for your findings.
[10 marks]
- (d) Explain the purpose of reporting research.
[9 marks]
- (e) Differentiate between a histogram, bar chart and frequency polygon. [6 marks]

[Total marks = 40]

QUESTION 2

- (a) Research utilizes a scientific approach when conducted. Define the scientific approach and explain how the deductive and inductive reasoning are utilized; include an example for each.
[8 marks]
- (b) Explain the current views of researchers on qualitative versus quantitative research.
[10 marks]
- (c) State what the following are and in what situations can they be used in data analysis: a t-test, ANOVA and correlation coefficients.
[9 marks]
- (d) State the three measures of central tendencies
[3 marks]

[Total marks = 30]

QUESTION 3

- (a) In experimental research designs, a researcher has to guard against the influence of extraneous factors to maintain internal validity. Explain how nine factors can affect the internal validity of results. [18 marks]
- (b) Explain the three pre-experimental research designs and include one advantage and one disadvantage. [12 marks]

[Total marks = 30]

QUESTION 4

- (a) Describe the types of variables that can be used in research. [4 marks]
- (b) What 3 levels of measurement can be used in research? [6 marks]
- (c) Briefly explain what is entailed in data collection and processing. [20 marks]

[Total marks = 30]