

Course Code: IDE-BAE 207 (M) 2006

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR II

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER	:	INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION
COURSE CODE	:	IDE-BAE 207
TIME ALLOWED	:	TWO (2) HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS	:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. ANSWER <u>ALL</u> QUESTIONS FROM SECTION "A".2. ANSWER ANY <u>THREE</u> (3) QUESTIONS IN SECTION "B".3. MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR POORLY WRITTEN ENGLISH.4. ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

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THE INVIGILATOR

SECTION A: COMPULSORY

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all questions from this Section.

QUESTION 1

If it is important to explain the reason for the research to the subjects before data collection, the experimenter should

- (a) not disclose any information about the object of the research
- (b) inform them anyway, since their cooperation is vital
- (c) tell the subjects they will be informed at the completion of the research
- (d) give reasons for the research

QUESTION 2

Concerning confidentiality of research data, the researcher should

- (a) make certain no unauthorised individuals have access to the data
- (b) inform subjects about persons who will have access to data
- (c) remove names from data-collection instruments and replace with a code
- (d) all of the above are correct

[2]

QUESTION 3

If a UNISWA student agrees to participate in a research project and then, after completing part of the work, drops out,

- (a) the student should be penalised in some way, such as lowering his grade in class.
- (b) the student should be required to provide another person to substitute for him.
- (c) nothing should be done since the student has a right to withdraw
- (d) the student is legally committed to complete the project and should be informed of this fact.

[2]

QUESTION 4

The main situation in which a researcher would use a causal-comparative design rather than an experimental design is when

- (a) random sampling is not possible
- (b) experimental manipulation is not possible
- (c) use of standardised tests is not possible
- (d) young children are the subjects of the research

[2]

QUESTION 5

The protection of individual privacy in educational research involves two factors: consent of the individual as to what shall be disclosed to the researcher and

- (a) the length of time during which data collected are to remain confidential
- (b) confidential use of research data collected on individuals
- (c) the need for all the data to be collected anonymously
- (d) disclosure based only upon significance of findings.

[2]

QUESTION 6

One of the main limitations of causal - comparative research is that

- (a) it is more expensive than other types of research
- (b) control groups cannot be studied
- (c) cause-and-effect generalisations cannot be drawn from the research data
- (d) null hypotheses cannot be stated

[2]

QUESTION 7

The division of individuals into two categories on the basis of performance on a continuous variable is called a (n).

- (a) artificial dichotomy
- (b) ranking
- (c) true dichotomy
- (d) artificial ranking

[2]

Course Code: IDE-BAE 207 (M) 2006

QUESTION 8

The type of research study ideally suited to establish causal relationships, assuming that the proper controls are used, is the

- (a) observation study
- (b) experimental study
- (c) descriptive study
- (d) causal-comparative study

[2]

QUESTION 9

An experiment in which the extraneous variables are controlled is said to be

- (a) internally reliable
- (b) internally valid
- (c) externally valid
- (d) externally reliable

[2]

QUESTION 10

A post test in an experiment is sometimes called the

- (a) dependent variable
- (b) experimental treatment
- (c) experimental variable
- (d) treatment variable

[2]

SECTION B

Instructions: Answer any THREE questions from this Section.

QUESTION 11

Outline the components of the scientific method and explain why it is important to follow the scientific method in conducting research.

[20]

Course Code: IDE-BAE 207 (M) 2006

QUESTION 12

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|-----|--|------|
| (a) | State a null hypothesis | [5] |
| (b) | State a directional hypothesis | [5] |
| (c) | What is the role of hypotheses in planning research? | [10] |

QUESTION 13

What are the most important features of an experimental research design? [20]

QUESTION 14

Discuss the four sources of research problems as suggested by Ary (1990). [20]

QUESTION 15

Discuss the seven things that a researcher should consider in selecting a research problem, Charles (1988). [20]