

Course Code BAE 207(M) 2008

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ADULT EDUCATION) YEAR II**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER , MAY 2008**

**TITLE OF PAPER:** INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS IN ADULT EDUCATION

**COURSE CODE:** IDE-BAE 207

**TIME ALLOWED:** TWO (2) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A.
  2. ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS IN SECTION B.
  3. ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION B CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.**

**QUESTION 1**

Which statement reflects an acceptable guideline for informed consent?

- (a) The consent form should describe potential risks or discomforts to the subjects.
  - (b) The principal researcher should obtain written consent from the research subjects.
  - (c) All subjects for participation in the study should consent.
  - (d) The researcher should not be expected to answer subjects' questions about the study.
- [2 marks]

**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 the data
  - (c) remove names from data-collection instruments and replace them with a code
  - (d) all of the above are correct
- [2 marks]

**QUESTION 3**

The protection of the 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 marks]

**QUESTION 4**

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 cannot be drawn from the research data
  - (d) null hypotheses cannot be stated
- [2 marks]

**QUESTION 5**

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

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

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 6**

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

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

[2 marks]

**QUESTION 7**

Mention FOUR characteristics of a good hypothesis.

[4 marks]

**SECTION B**

**QUESTION 8**

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

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 9**

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

[5 marks]

[5 marks]

[10 marks]

**QUESTION 10**

What are important features/characteristics of an experimental research design?

[20 marks]

**QUESTION 11**

Discuss the seven (7) things that a researcher should consider in selecting a research problem, Charles, (1988).

[20 marks]