

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY/JUNE 2009

TITLE OF PAPER : QUALITATIVE METHODS OF RESEARCH

COURSE NUMBER : EDF 621 M.ED

TIME ALLOWED : (2 ½) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER QUESTION ANY FOUR QUESTIONS OF YOUR CHOICE.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED TO DO SO BY THE INVIGILATOR

Choose any four questions.

1. a) Differentiate between probability and non probability sampling. [4 marks]
- b) Name and explain any three sampling techniques used in qualitative research showing when and why each sampling technique is best to use. [21 marks]

Total [25 marks]

2. Cite and explain at least five (5) specific ways by which qualitative researchers have ensured the validity of their research findings. [5×5=25 marks]

3. Using examples show the difference between a deductive and an inductive approach in qualitative research. [12 ½ ×2 = 25 marks]

4. You are planning to undertake a study on the traditional and cultural practices and their impact on HIV/AIDS epidemic among members of a specific community in rural Swaziland using participatory observations.

a) Explain the different steps that you would take to ensure that the study is successful. (10 marks)

b) What sampling technique would you use to select your informants. (10marks)

c) What problems are you likely to encounter and how would you handle them.

(10 marks)

5. Using illustrations explain the functions of "informants" and "gate keepers" in relation to a researcher gaining access to different research situations. [12 ½ marks for each]

Total [25 marks]