

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM & TEACHING
EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER
MAY 2014.

TITLE OF PAPER: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

COURSE CODE: EDC 647

STUDENTS: M. Ed. Curriculum & Teaching.

TIME ALLOWED: Three (3) Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. There are five questions in this paper.

2. Answer any four questions

3. Each question has a total of 25marks.

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BY THE INVIGILATOR TO DO SO.

QUESTION 1

“The defining feature of Pedagogical Content Knowledge (PCK) is its conceptualization as the result of a transformation of knowledge from other domains. (Wilson, Schulman & Richert, 1988)

- a. With the aid of a diagram, show the relationships among the domains as presented by Magnusson et al, 1999 : 99) (15marks)
- b. Discuss the importance of the knowledge of each of these domains to the teaching of chemistry in senior secondary schools.

QUESTION 2.

a. “Scientists use the conceptual core of science to deduce important consequences, to make predictions, to solve problems, to generate hypotheses and to develop research questions and research programs” (Reif, 1985).

Explain the term “Meaningful Conceptual Understanding” in the light of the statement above. (10mks).

b. Science instruction that has meaningful conceptual understanding as its goal must somehow engage students in making connections between disciplinary conceptual knowledge and “real world” knowledge. (Pines & West, 1983) Several researchers have proposed models of conceptual change to achieve this goal.

Show how you would use the model of conceptual change by Posner et al (1982) to recognize and reconcile a specific concept in senior secondary school chemistry.(15mks)

QUESTION 3

a. Metacognition is a psychological construct and a dimension of thinking with several virtues. (Marzano et al, 1987). Analyze five virtues of metacognition.(15marks)

c. As a classroom teacher, discuss four approaches you would use to facilitate the social exchange of shared knowledge. (10marks)

QUESTION 4

a Distinguish between assessment and evaluation. (4marks)

b. Critically examine the effect of:

- i. Grading

ii. Testing and feedback

iii. Standardized testing

on students' motivation and learning. (9marks)

c. Discuss how a classroom teacher could apply the four principles proposed by Gronlund (2005) to design an assessment system. (12marks)

QUESTION 5

The role of the teacher has changed since the 20th Century as the purpose of education has expanded rapidly. (Arends, 2007). Discuss the teaching challenges faced by the 21st century teacher and suggest ways by which the teacher can overcome them.(25marks)

END OF EXAMINATION!!!