UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER MAY 2013

TITLE OF PAPER: RESEARCH METHODS

COURSE CODE: SOC 201

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

(1)   Answer Any Four (4) Questions
(2)   All Questions Carry Equal Marks
(3)   You may use a calculator

THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION
HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR

Q.1   What does it mean to say that the research steps are not rigid? Explain.

Q.2   What are the major differences between basic and applied research? Describe the seven aspects of basic and applied research.

Q.3   Discuss the major strengths and weaknesses of using the Internet for social research?

Q.4   What is informed consent and how does it protect research subjects? Explain the ethical issues in the Milgram and Zimbardo examples?

Q.5   Define a sampling frame and explain which sampling method is best when the population has several groups and a researcher wants to ensure that each group is in the sample?

Q.6   How does the field researcher's approach to research design differ from that of the experimenter and survey researcher?

Q.7   The contingency table shows the results of a random sample of fatally injured passenger vehicle drivers (with blood alcohol level concentrations greater than or equal to 0.08) by age and gender. At alpha=0.05, can you conclude that age is related to gender in such alcohol related accidents?

AGE

GENDER	16-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61 and above
Male	31	108	61	52	27	17
Female	6	18	15	14	5	3

Q.8   Is the price of digital camera related to its quality? To answer this question, you randomly select ten (10) digital cameras and determine the overall score and price of each. The overall score represents the picture quality, weight and useful features of the camera. The results of the study are shown below. Calculate the rank order correlation between the overall score and price and interpret your result.

Overall Score:	81	80	79	76	75	74	73	72	70	67
Price in E:	2800	3300	2500	3000	2300	3000	2800	2300	2000	2400