

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

(FIRST SEMESTER)

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

COURSE CODE: HSC 403

COURSE TITLE: HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) THIS PAPER CONTAINS THREE QUESTIONS.**
- 2) ANSWER ALL THREE QUESTIONS**
- 3) EACH QUESTION IS TO BE ANSWERED ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER**

QUESTION 1 A

MULTIPLY CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. A researcher uses the same methods as those employed in a previous study and then determines if the results are the same.

Which concept does this situation best illustrate?

- a. Correlation
 - b. Observation
 - c. Publication
 - d. Replication
2. ----- model uses accumulated data to form general explanatory principles
- a. Correlation
 - b. deductive
 - c. inductive
 - d. scientific
3. Which research method would be most useful to study the attitudes held by adolescents about cigarette smoking?
- a. Case study
 - b. Experimental
 - c. Observational
 - d. Survey
4. One of the following statements is a disadvantage of quota sampling?
- a. The procedure for selecting participants is not random
 - b. The findings are valid only when the sample is large
 - c. Only alternate participants can be selected
 - d. The procedure is valid only when the sample is large

5. What is the rationale for randomly assigning each research participant to one of two groups?

- a. To eliminate systematic bias in the group
- b. To manipulate the independent variables in the groups
- c. To protect the privacy of the participants
- d. To ensure representative sampling

6. External validity refers to;

- a. The degree to which the results of a study could be generalized to other people or settings.
- b. The measures listed in the question do not affect the operational definitions of the variables
- c. The measures listed in the question do not affect the reliability of measures
- d. The measures listed in the question do not affect analysis

7. A researcher proposes to conduct a study which exposes participants to possible physical, social or psychological injury.

What should the ethics committee/institutional review board require of this researcher? The researcher must;

- a. Obtain informed consent from potential participants
- b. Receive approval from the Swaziland Psychological Association
- c. Provide payment to the research participants
- d. conduct a less risky pilot study

8. Correlation studies seek to:

- a. Determining differences between variables
- b. Identify a group with particular characteristics
- c. Identify an issue/problem and find out what happened backwards
- d. Determining associations/relationships between variables

9. Quasi-experimental studies one of the following procedures is NOT carried out

- a. manipulation

- b. data collection before and after the experiment
- c. random sampling
- d. comparing results from both experimental and control groups

10. Background variables are:

- a. age, sex and pain
- b. age, sex and stress
- c. age, sex and satisfaction
- d. age, sex, religion

11. Bracketing can be viewed as:

- a. comparing and contrasting final data
- b. testing emerging concepts
- c. setting aside pre-conceived beliefs and opinions
- d. bringing in pre-conceived beliefs and opinions

12. A variable that reflects the effect or outcome is considered;

- a. extraneous variable
- b. independent variable
- c. dependant variable
- d. demographic variable

13. Information reported and written by the person who collected is referred to as

- a. Primary data
- b. Secondary data
- c. Personal data
- d. Data source

14. A variety of techniques in gathering data is

- a. validity
- b. purposeful

- c. snowballing
- d. triangulation

15. Criteria for selecting a research topic is all BUT

- a. measurability
- b. feasibility
- c. applicability
- d. relevance

16. A research proposal constitute all BUT

- a. Discussions
- b. Problem design
- c. Problem statement
- d. Literature review

17. Variables in which numbers can only have non - full values are;

- a. nominal
- b. discrete
- c. continuous
- d. ordinal

18. Research questions should be all EXCEPT

- a. simple
- b. understandable
- c. short
- d. double barrelled

19. Relevance of a research topic refers to all EXCEPT;

- a. How large or widespread is the problem?
- b. Who is affected?
- c. How severe is the problem?
- d. How large is the sample size?

20. Research design is best defined all EXCEPT;

- a. How information will be collected
- b. What tools are necessary to collect data
- c. How to define the problem
- d. How many subjects are to be included

21, 22, 23, 24, 25 Enlist five (5) characteristics of a qualitative study

(5 marks)

QUESTION 2

2.1. Step 1 of developing research instrument or questioning tools focuses on content. Discuss four (4) issues necessary for developing content

(4 marks)

2.2. Compare and contrast between simple random and stratified sampling.

(6 marks)

2.3. Distinguish between external and internal validity

(2 marks)

2.4. Improve the following statement to reflect a research topic

(2 marks)

2.5. In one of the communities in Hlathikhulu there is high suspicion that young girls commit illegal abortions.

Analyse and design a problem tree of the contributing factors for this problem highlighting (3) core issues.

(3 marks)

2.6. You are tasked to conduct a research from which the purpose is;

- To identify the factors influencing utilisation of childwelfare clinics in the Lubombo region

From the above – mentioned purpose of the study derive three (3) objectives for the study.

(6 marks)

2.7. State two (2) strategies which you could use to deal with response bias

[2 marks]

[25 marks]

QUESTION 3

3.1. Analysis of data from Focus Group Discussions includes basic steps. Explain the five (5) steps you would consider during your analysis of Focus Group Discussion.

(5 marks)

3.2. 1. Distinguish between a non – directional and directional hypothesis

(2 marks)

3.2.2. Give one example of each type of hypothesis

(2 marks)

3.3. State five (5) areas that need to be covered in a problem statement

(5 marks)

3.4. A research student is keen to conduct a qualitative study.

Explain the techniques he/she will use to determine credibility or internal validity

(5 marks)

3.5. Identify two (2) issues that should be included in writing an abstract

(2 marks)

3.6 Differentiate between a dependant and independent variable

(4 marks)

[25 marks]

GRAND TOTAL [75 MARKS]