

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2012**

**TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS IN HISTORY**

**COURSE CODE : H 312**

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

**INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS IN ALL.  
2. ALL QUESTION CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS  
GRANTED PERMISSION**

1. Examine the strengths and weaknesses of any five (5) of the below listed historical sources (i) Unpublished sources

(ii) Letters and diaries

(iii) Memoirs and autobiographies

(iv) Oral evidence

(v) Official Publications

(vi) Newspapers

(vii) Photographs

(viii) Films

2. Using any topic of your choice, show how you would go about developing a research proposal.

3. What are the main differences between quantitative and qualitative methodologies? Which of the two do you consider most suitable to historical research?

4. How would you go about evaluating sources of information in the process of carrying out a research project?

5. What are the most important ethical considerations you would consider in going about historical research?