

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND
PLANNING

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2015

B.A., B.Ed., B.Sc. & BASS

TITLE OF PAPER : RESEARCH METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY

COURSE TITLE : GEP 323

TIME ALLOWED : THREE HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.
2. QUESTION 1 IS COMPULSORY.
ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS FROM
SECTION B.
3. WHERE APPROPRIATE, ILLUSTRATE
YOUR ANSWER WITH DIAGRAMS.

MARK ALLOCATION : QUESTION ONE (1) CARRIES 40 MARKS
THE REST OF THE QUESTIONS CARY 30
MARKS.

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

SECTION A: COMPULSORY QUESTION

QUESTION 1

- a) Describe the three main ways a questionnaire could be administered. (10 marks)
- b) Compare these three approaches with respect to: resource factors; questionnaire issues and data-quality issues. (10 marks)
- c) Describe sources of measurement error in surveys that are attributed to the interviewer and respondent. (20 marks)

[40 MARKS]

QUESTION 2

- a) Using relevant examples explain what a research proposal is. (10 marks)
- b) Identify and discuss the elements of a research proposal. (20 marks)

[30 MARKS]

QUESTION 3

With the aid of examples identify and discuss three types of data collection techniques.

[30 MARKS]

QUESTION 4

With the aid of examples compare and contrast true experimental and quasi-experimental designs.

[30 MARKS]

QUESTION 5

- a) Explain what a variable is. (5 marks)
- b) Explain why researchers need to consider variables in research. (5 marks)
- c) With the aid of examples discuss types of variables in research. (20 marks)

[30 MARKS]