DEV8X11 EXAM 2019

Development Studies: Honours Research Methods

June Supplementary Exam

Total Marks: 100

Hours for this exam: 3 hours

Course Code: DEV8X11

Lecturers: Dr Nqobile Zulu – APK

                       Dr Richard Devey-Statkon

Instructions to candidates

Answer **both section A and section B**, each of which contain a number of linked sub-questions. All the questions in this paper are compulsory.

The total mark allocation for the paper is *100.*

You have to answer all the sub-questions. For each sub-question, there is a recommended mark. Use the mark allocation to guide you in structuring your answer.

Draw on the course reading and lecture notes as far as possible for your answers.

Define the concepts that you use and provide examples as appropriate.

Section A (Total 80 marks)

Choose ONE of the following research topics:

- The perceptions of UJ Humanities students towards the political disruption of the graduation programme in 2019.
- The meaning that young people attach to land expropriation in South Africa.
- The attitudes of students towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
- The factors that influence student housing allocation by residence officials.
- The supervision experiences of honours students studying Development Studies.

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Design a research proposal to investigate your chosen research topic. In your answer, you need to justify all aspects of your proposed design.

Your design must address the following issues (mark allocation in brackets)

1. The specific research question and hypothesis you wish to investigate. (5)
2. The aims and rationale for the research project you are proposing. (10)
3. The conceptualisation and operationalisation of the research. (5)
4. The research approach you will adopt. (5)
5. a) The research method/s you will use. Mention strengths and weaknesses. (10)
   b) the research instruments you will use. Mention strengths and weaknesses. (10)
6. Give 5 interview questions you might ask? (10)
7. The sampling techniques you will employ and their strengths and weaknesses. (10)
8. The site of your research and how you will gain access to the research site. (5)
9. The ethical issues that may arise from the research and how you will deal with these (10)

Section B: Quantitative research and analysis (total 20 marks)

Note: Students may need use of a calculator.

B1. Quantitative research as theory testing

B1. In the chapter 'Developing a theoretic proposition' Whetten defines specific propositional theory as the explanation of what a phenomenon is and how it works (2009, p. 219). Theory making is identifying the main concepts of the phenomenon and stating the relationships between these concepts. In the chapter Whetten uses graphic modelling to generate a visual display of a theory and he provides a number of suggestions for how new theory can be developed.

Choose a topic of interest to you, identify two or more constructs, state the proposed relationship between the constructs, generate a graphic model of the relationship between the constructs, and give one example of how you might develop a new theory from the original model. (6 marks)

B2. Descriptive statistics

B2a. The following data represent the number of journal articles read by twenty-five Development Studies students over the past week: 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 8, 9, 9, and 10. Complete the frequency table below using these figures. (4 marks).

Number of periodicals	Frequency	Percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
8				
9				
10				
Total	25	100.0	100.0	

B2b. From these results, what would you conclude about intensity of reading journal articles by students? (2 marks)

B3. Inferential statistics

Cross-tabulation is used to obtain a table containing frequencies and percentages of the responses of pairs of categories for two categorical variables. Cross-tabulation can be extended, through using inferential statistics, to test either association or independence between the two variables. We can test a statistical hypothesis (of either association or independence) by deriving an inferential statistic from the descriptive statistics in the cross-tabulation. Explain how inferential statistics are derived from a cross-tabulation. Include a brief description of two variables you could be measuring and the steps of hypothesis testing in your answer. (8 marks).

Total marks 100