



ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES**

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT, PROGRAMMING AND MANAGEMENT

EXAMINATION PAPER

Master of Science Degree in Development Studies

COURSE CODE : MSDS112
COURSE TITLE : Advanced Social Research Methods
DURATION : 3 Hours
DATE : 29 JUL 2025

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. Answer one question from section A. It is compulsory.
2. Answer any two questions from section B
3. Each question carries equal marks.
4. Start each question on a new page of your answer sheet.

Section A

1. The United States of America's Office of the Humanitarian Assistance, formerly USAID and the Ministry of Labour and Social Development considered you for a research on teen sexual and reproductive health amongst school going girls. OHA provides the necessary funds for the study; therefore, design a research proposal on 'Teen sexual and reproductive health amongst school going girls in Harare'. A comprehensive intervention (Action Research) will be carried out based on the findings of the research but before the research report is generated, come up with a research proposal which is going to be presented before a panel of competent researchers from OHA and government of Zimbabwe as they assess the viability of the study. Write an appropriate topic and show how the study will be carried out.
2. Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique were recently affected by Cyclone Chido which resulted in loss of life, destruction of property and displacements. You are called in as a development and disaster science researcher to provide an exploratory study of the immediate needs for the survivors. Design a research proposal on how a post disaster intervention will be done. Come up with an appropriate topic and produce a research proposal.

Section B

3. As a Research Officer in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism who has familiarity with different research strategies utilised in your ministry's researches. Demonstrate in writing what it entails to do an ethnographic and case study researches and raise strength and weaknesses for each strategy.
4. Make a comparative analysis of two research philosophies, one from the qualitative and another from the quantitative approaches.
5. As a Research Teaching Assistant at ZEGU you have been allocated an hour presentation to undergraduate dissertation students on research ethics. Make a presentation which articulates key ethical issues to be considered when one embarks on a research journey.

The end

