



ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AGRICULTURE AND

FOOD SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF DATA SCIENCE AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

EXAMINATION PAPER

COURSE CODE : BIS214
COURSE TITLE : Research Methods
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS : None
DURATION : 3 Hours
LEVEL : 2.1 & 2.2
DATE : June 2026

11 JUN 2026

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

4. Answer any **ALL** Questions
5. Start each Question on a new page

QUESTION 1

- a) Evaluate the differences between experimental and non-experimental research methodologies regarding a researcher's control over independent variables. [10 Marks]
- b) Critically evaluate qualitative and quantitative research methodologies [15 Marks]

QUESTION 2

- a) Analyze the threats to data validity and reliability when using participant observation methods compared to automated electronic logs. [10 Marks]
- b) Design a mixed-methods data collection strategy to investigate why teachers are leaving the education profession within five years of graduating. [15 Marks]

QUESTION 3

- a) Justify the use of interviews versus observations as primary data collection instruments in any research of your choice. [12 Marks]
- b) Critically evaluate qualitative data analysis methods versus quantitative data analysis methods regarding their approach to pattern extraction. [13 Marks]

QUESTION 4

- a) Critically evaluate snowball sampling and simple random sampling, focusing on how each method locates participants and impacts the ability to minimize sampling bias. [25 Marks]

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