

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT: SPORTS SCIENCE

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DEGREE IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT

AND

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DEGREE IN SPORTS SCIENCE

SSM 503: RESEARCH METHODS FOR EXERCISE SCIENCES

DURATION: 3 HOURS
(Plus 15 Minutes for Case Reading)

TOTAL MARKS: 100

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Section A is Compulsory. You are required to answer three (3) questions from Section B.

Section A

Question 1:

Assume you are part of a team of researchers who have been hired by the National Olympic Committee in your country to draft a research proposal for use in a study focusing on promoting the use of digital resources in the coaching of all Olympic sports codes at all levels. Members of the research team have been assigned to work on different sections of the research proposal and your task is to draft the proposed methodology for the project.

Task: Prepare a detailed draft of the assigned sections of the proposal.

[40 marks]

Section B

Question 2:

As a researcher, select and justify the research philosophy you would adopt when conducting studies with the following attributes:

a. You have been tasked to conduct a study to determine the extent to which the TIPS talent identification model by Ajax Football Club in the Netherlands can be inferred to Zimbabwean football.

[5 marks]

b. You have been tasked to measure the body composition of footballers at a preseason training camp and establish how their fitness coaches feel about the players' fitness levels. [5 marks]

c. You are researching on how to digitalise and commercialise nhodo and tsoro, a subject which is opaque and underresearched. [5 marks]

d. You have been tasked to conduct a study focusing on improving the ability of a local football team to attract and retain sponsorship. [5 marks]

Question 3:

As a researcher, you are part of a team which is working on different projects. Select, justify and describe the approaches to literature review you would adopt under the following circumstances:

- a. You want to analyse and summarize what has been written on a particular subject. [5 marks]
- b. You want to provide a snapshot of the historical evolution and current status of concepts within a particular field of research. [5 marks]
- c. You want to interpret the findings of previous multiple qualitative research studies. [5 marks]
- d. You want to statistically detect patterns and relationships in results from different previous studies. [5 marks]

Question 4:

Assume you are part of a team of mixed methods researchers working on a research project focusing on developing strategies to improve the performance of your country's national football team in international competitions. Your role in the research team is to develop a qualitative data collection instrument for use in the project.

Task: Prepare a draft of the instrument. [20 marks]

Question 5:

As a Doctor of Philosophy in Sports Science student, you are planning to conduct a study focusing on a topic which contains objective and subjective elements.

Task: Discuss the methods you would use to collect and analyse data for the study and justify their selection. [20 marks]

Question 6:

As a seasoned academic researcher, you have been tasked to present a paper to a class of Doctor of Philosophy in Sports Science students on why they need to obtain ethical clearance before embarking on

their thesis research studies. The presentation should also include guidance on how can collect, analyse, store and discard data in a manner that can promote good ethical practices.

Task: Prepare a draft of your paper.

[20 marks]

END OF PAPER