

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION
FINAL EXAMINATION – 2020/2021
SNPA608 – QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION
DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS



Date: 11.09.2022

Time 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer question No. 01 and any other three (03) questions.

01. The Department of Special Needs Education, Faculty of Education of the Open University of Sri Lanka intends to conduct a research competition among special education teachers and has called for research proposals from the teachers to conduct research studies. The teachers can submit research proposals in relation to the following themes.
- a. Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder/Down Syndrome/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
 - b. Gifted and talented children
 - c. Inclusive classroom
 - d. Individualized education plan/Transition plan
 - e. Assistive technologies
- i. State a research problem that you have selected in relation to one of the given themes and give evidences to prove the selected research problem.

(05 marks)
 - ii. Briefly explain the significance of studying the selected problem.

(04 marks)
 - iii. State the main purpose of the study and formulate **three (03)** specific research objectives/ research questions related to the selected problem.

(09 marks)
 - iv. Select an appropriate quantitative research design to study the selected problem and give justification with **two (02)** reasons.

(04 marks)

- v. State the sample you intend to select and select the appropriate sampling technique that could be proposed with justification. (05 marks)
- vi. Specify the data collection instruments you propose and justify their suitability to attain the research objectives of the study. (06 marks)
- vii. State the data analysis techniques propose for the study and give justification for the appropriateness. (03 marks)
- viii. Specify **four (04)** limitations of your research study. (04 marks)
- (40 marks)
02. Select **two (02)** research designs of your choice out of survey research design, correlational research design, and quasi-experimental research design, and compare and contrast them under the following aspects, providing examples.
- i. The main purpose of the **two (02)** research designs. (06 marks)
- ii. **Three (03)** unique characteristics of each of the selected designs. (07 marks)
- iii. **Three (03)** strengths and **three (03)** limitations of each research design selected. (07 marks)
03. i. Explain main differences between probability and non-probability sampling methods providing **three (3)** examples. (06 marks)
- ii. Describe **two (02)** different sampling methods specifically used in quantitative research studies and explain with examples how those methods can be adopted in a selected study. (07 marks)
- iii. Explain **three (03)** issues that could be faced by researchers when selecting a sample in quantitative research and suggest **three (03)** measures that can be taken to minimize those issues. (07 marks)

04. i. Explain how the quantitative research approach would be suitable for conducting research in Special Needs Education area providing three (03) examples. (06 marks)
- ii. Describe **two (02)** different data collection methods that could be used in quantitative research studies and explain with examples how those methods can be adopted in a selected study. (07 marks)
- iii. Explain **three (03)** issues that could be faced by researchers when collecting quantitative data and suggest **three (03)** measures that can be taken to minimize those issues. (07 marks)
05. i. Explain **three (03)** main differences between quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods, providing **three (03)** examples. (06 marks)
- ii. Describe quantitative data analysis methods that you could use for conducting research in Special Needs Education area providing **three (03)** examples. (07 marks)
- iii. Explain **three (03)** issues that could be faced by researchers when analyzing quantitative data and suggest **three (03)** measures that can be taken to minimize those issues. (07 marks)
- (Total 100 marks)

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