



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION – 2023/2024

FINAL EXAMINATION

SNPA609 – QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 17.05.2025

Time 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

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

01. As an educator in Special Needs Education, you are requested by your institutional head to conduct a qualitative research by selecting one of the following aspects.

- a. Special Education Unit System
 - b. Inclusive Education System
 - c. Individualized Education Programme
 - d. Implementation of Assistive Technology
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- i. Identify a research problem, related to one of the aspects mentioned above. (05 marks)
 - ii. Illustrate the significance of the selected research problem. (04 marks)
 - iii. State the aim of the study and formulate **four (04)** research objectives/questions related to the selected problem. (08 marks)
 - iv. Choose a suitable qualitative research design for your research problem and justify your choice with **three (03)** reasons. (04 marks)
 - v. State the participants of the study and briefly explain the selection process justifying your choices. (05 marks)
 - vi. Explain the data collection procedures of your study, detailing how data will be collected. (06 marks)
 - vii. Discuss the qualitative data analysis process of your study. (06 marks)
 - viii. Outline your plan for disseminating the findings of your study. (02 marks)

(Total = 40 marks)

02. a. Explain the concept of “Qualitative Research Approach” (05 marks)
- b. Illustrates the unique features of the qualitative research approach. (07 marks)
- c. Explain, citing examples the significance of the qualitative research approach in the field of Special Needs Education. (08 marks)

(Total = 20 marks)

03. Select **two (02)** research designs that are popular within the qualitative research approach and can be applied in the field of Special Education. Answer the following questions, based on your selection.

- a. State **two (02)** research designs and justify why you selected these **two (02)** research designs. (06 marks)
- b. Explain **three (03)** unique characteristics of each of the selected designs. (07 marks)
- c. Discuss **three (03)** strengths and **three (03)** limitations of each research design.

(07 marks)

(Total = 20 marks)

04. a. In qualitative research, what are the different types of non-probability sampling. (06 marks)
- b. Explain, citing examples of **two (02)** sampling methods that are more popular in the qualitative research approach? (07 marks)
- c. Illustrate **four (04)** strengths and **four (04)** limitations of each sampling technique.

(07 marks).

(Total = 20 marks)

05. *Data is a key factor in research. Thus, data collection and data analysis are crucial parts of the research.

- a. Explain **two (02)** data collection methods regularly used in the qualitative research approach and describe how they should be carried out. (06 marks)
- b. Explain citing examples, the unique features of the data collector of the qualitative research approach. (06 marks)
- c. Illustrate citing examples, the importance of ethics in research in the field of Special Needs Education and how to maintain the trustworthiness of qualitative data.

(08 marks)

(Total = 20 marks)

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