



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

A. M. E. C. E. A

MAIN EXAMINATION

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AUGUST - DECEMBER 2015 TRIMESTER

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

EVENING PROGRAMME

LIS 415: INFORMATION IN SOCIAL CONTEXT

Date: DECEMBER 2015

Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and ANY OTHER TWO Questions

- Q1. a) Identify and briefly discuss the factors that have contributed to the increasing importance of information in social-economic development. **(5 marks)**
- b) Define the following concepts used to refer to aspects of the emerging paradigm of knowledge society
- i Networked society **(2 marks)**
 - ii Post-industrial society **(2 marks)**
 - iii Knowledge economy **(2 marks)**
- c) 'ICT greatly offers the African continent an opportunity to realize the potential development benefits in all areas of socio-economic and political life' Discuss. **(5 marks)**
- d) Distinguish between reference and tertiary sources of information. **(4 marks)**
- e) 'There are a number of concerns that demand LIS professionals engage in ethical reasoning and that personality act in accordance with some principles in concrete situations' Illustrate this notion with FIVE concrete examples. **(10 marks)**

- Q2. a) Distinguish between notions of information and knowledge society. **(6 marks)**
- b) Identify FOUR key actors in the information value chain and identify their distinct roles in knowledge generation. **(4 marks)**
- c) Define the concept of sustainable development and briefly explain its FOUR key dimensions. **(10 marks)**
- Q3. a) i) State reasons why as LIS professionals you would advocate the transformation of a rural society into a knowledge society. **(4 marks)**
- ii) Briefly explain SIX key characteristics of knowledge society. **(6 marks)**
- b) Briefly discuss FOUR challenges facing the transformation of the African region into an information society. **(4 marks)**
- c) Briefly explain how you as LIS professional can contribute to the transformation of your community into an information society. **(6 marks)**
- Q4. a) Explain why generation access and sharing of knowledge is a critical factor in the efforts towards achieving sustainable development. **(10 marks)**
- b) Define information ethics and discuss FOUR key ethical issues that communities face in the information age. **(10 marks)**

END