

PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DEPARTMENT: COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
COURSE CODE: BSIT 403
COURSE TITLE: PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN IT
CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU
EXAM DATE: THURSDAY, XXXXX/APRIL, 2025
TIME: 18:00PM-21:00PM

INSTRUCTIONS

- This exam script has **TWO (2)** sections.
- Read all questions carefully before attempting.
- Answer All questions in Section **A** and any other Three questions in Section **B**.
- Write only your **student number** on the answer booklet provided.

SECTION A

(Answer ALL questions in this section)

Question 1:

- a) Highlight any four characteristics of an IT professional

[2

Marks]

- b) Open-Source software projects distribute their software including the source code, for free. How might the introduction of software patents change this model

[2

Marks]

- c) Describe any three basic types of ethical inquiries **[3 Marks]**

- d) Using examples explain how to prevent the following health issues while using ICT;

- i. Eye strain
- ii. Back problems
- iii. Stress

[3

Marks]

SECTION B

(Answer any THREE (3) questions in this section)

Question 2

- a) Using any two relevant examples, give reasons why it is not recommended to rely solely on law as moral guidelines **[4 Marks]**

- b) Ethical and societal Issues is like a coin with two sides, using examples explain the ethical concerns in relation to IT professional

[6

Marks]

Question 3:

The following are two definitions of computer ethics “the study of the ethical questions that arise as a consequence of the development and deployment of computers and computing technologies. ” and “the analysis of the nature and the social impact of computer technology and the corresponding formulation and justification of policies for the ethical use of such technology. ”

- a) Critique the two definitions above **[4 Marks]**
- b) Compare the definitions highlighting similarities and differences **[4 Marks]**
- c) Highlight any FOUR concepts of moral dimension of technology **[2 Marks]**

Question 4:

“Revolution in technology and particularly internet, has led to organizations collecting large amounts of personal data from huge range of sources which can be accurate or inaccurate. The organizations can sell or share the data with other organizations without owners’ consent. A hacker penetrates the database in bid to try and correct some information which owners think that is incorrect. The hacker is also able to identify which organization is holding information about who and for what purpose; he/she has a choice to report to the relevant authority for relevant action

- a) Give any four reasons why you think the organizations have a right to or not to access and share personal information. **[4 Marks]**
- b) Explain why the hacker may or may not be justified in this scenario. **[4 Marks]**
- c) Based on the ethical conduct of IT Professionals how best would you handle the above case. **[2 Marks]**

Question 5:

Briefly describe how the use of ICT

a) affects the following application areas and

[5 Marks]

b) suggest using relevant examples the ethical implications of ICT in these areas.

[5 Marks]

- i. Health
- ii. Education
- iii. Crime and policing
- iv. Retailing
- v. Business

Question 6:

The basic principles of ethics are constant, no matter to what areas they might be applied. The principles of medical ethics, legal ethics, and computer ethics are not different from one another. Theft is theft no matter whether done as a street robbery or with a computer. However, new circumstances related to the computer do cause new questions about how these principles are to be applied. Describe any FIVE features of computers that give rise to new ethical problems.

[10

Marks]

EOF