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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

Semester I Semester II Supplemental/Summer School

Examinations of December /April/May /July 2018

Originating Campus: Cave Hill Mona St. Augustine

Course Code and Title: **LIBS3901 – ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN THE CARIBBEAN**

Date:

Time:

Duration: **2 Hours**

Paper No:

Materials required:

Answer booklet: Normal Special Not required

Calculator: Programmable Non Programmable
(where applicable)

Multiple Choice answer sheets: numerical alphabetical 1-20 1-100

Auxiliary/Other material(s) – Please specify:

Candidates are permitted to bring the following items to their desks:

Instructions to Candidates: This paper has 10 pages & 27 questions.

Candidates are reminded that the examiners shall take into account the proper use of the English Language in determining the mark for each response.

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.

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External Examiner (where applicable)

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1. Comment on **FOUR (4)** challenges to connectivity among the countries of the Caribbean, and propose **ONE (1)** possible solution to each of these challenges. (8 marks)

2. Explain the concept of “open access” journals and state **TWO (2)** potential impacts on Caribbean users’ access to information. (4 marks).

3. State **FOUR (4)** reasons why Caribbean libraries may filter access to the Internet (4 marks).

4. Comment on the Internet penetration in the Caribbean and give the percentage of the penetration to the population in **THREE (3)** Caribbean countries. (4 marks).

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5. Give a definition of an e-government portal website. (3 marks)

6. Identify, **THREE (3)** services OR features offered via Caribbean government portals, and explain what you consider to be their value to the “average citizen” (6 marks)

7. Describe briefly **THREE (3)** activities which Caribbean librarians can undertake to assist users in accessing the e-government services offered. (3 marks)

8. Identify **FOUR (4)** Caribbean countries which provide online access to their legislation, and comment on the steps which the “average citizen” would need to take to locate subsidiary legislation in one of those countries. (4 marks)

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9. State **TWO (2)** possible disadvantages in using online sources of legislation. (2 marks)

10. Identify **FIVE (5)** steps in the process of law making in the Commonwealth Caribbean and explain **ONE (1)** of these steps. (6 marks).

11. Define a digital library, and comment on **ONE (1)** Caribbean example of a digital library (5 marks).

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12. State **THREE (3)** advantages for Caribbean users, of accessing digital libraries. (3 marks)

13. Define an institutional repository, and comment on **ONE (1)** example of a repository managed by a Caribbean institution. (4 marks)

14. Comment on the objectives, accessibility and coverage of **ONE (1)** Caribbean institutional repository (5 marks)

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15. Define an “aggregator database,” **AND** comment on your usage of **ONE (1)** example of such a database in use in a Caribbean library. (3 marks).

16. Name **TWO (2)** Caribbean journals which are “open access”, and comment on the information which is provided online. (4 marks).

17. Identify **THREE (3)** challenges **OR** disadvantages of accessing e-journals held in a Caribbean library of your choice. (3 marks).

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18. State the meaning of each of the following components of Usability: Learnability; Efficiency; Memorability; Recovery from Errors; Satisfaction. Identify and explain **ONE (1)** which you consider an essential component of usability. (6 marks)

19. You are requested to undertake usability testing on a Caribbean university library website. Please indicate the size of your sample and how you would select a sample of participants in the test. (5 marks).

20. State the role and function of Universal Service Funds in Caribbean countries (3 marks).

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21. Identify **FOUR (4)** projects or institutions which have been supported by the Jamaican Universal Service Fund and explain how **ONE (1)** of these projects or institutions has been supported by that Fund. (4 marks)

22. Briefly outline **ONE (1)** method of determining the affordability of broadband in the Caribbean. (3 marks)

23. Comment on the implementation of Access to Information / Freedom of Information Acts by **THREE (3)** Caribbean governments. (4 marks)

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24. Fill in the blanks in the phrase below to state the general objective of an Access to Information / Freedom of Information Act: (3 marks)

An act to provide _____ of the _____ with a general right of access to _____ held by _____.

25. State **THREE (3)** types of documents which fall into the exempt category of one of the Access to Information / Freedom of Information Acts in force in Caribbean countries. Explain why **ONE (1)** of the types of documents mentioned fits in the exempt category. (3 marks)

26. Identify **FOUR (4)** activities of special librarians as Access Officers, in Caribbean organizations, in the implementation of Access to Information /Freedom of Information legislation. (4 marks)

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27. Give a definition of an Internet Exchange Point (IXP), and explain its potential value to “the average Caribbean citizen.” (4 marks)

END OF EXAMINATION

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