



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

Semester I Semester II Supplemental/Summer School

Examinations of December /April/May /July 2012

Originating Campus: Cave Hill Mona St. Augustine

Mode: On Campus By Distance

Course Code and Title: **LIBS6202 - Subject Work in Information Retrieval**

Date: **May 2, 2012**

Time: **2:00 - 5:00 pm**

Duration: **3 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 2 pages & 6 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 THREE (3) QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION CARRIES EQUAL MARKS.

THIS PAPER REPRESENTS 60% OF THE COURSE MARK.

1. Explain the difference between summarization and in-depth indexing. Give the conditions under which you would use each type of indexing system and any qualifications regarding their use.
2. Discuss the four main components of modern classification schemes, pointing out the strengths and weaknesses of these. Examples from at least one classification scheme must be used.
3. The Library of Congress and the Dewey Decimal Classification schemes are enumerative classification schemes which use faceted classification to some degree. Explain enumerative and faceted classification then discuss the above statement with reference to the two schemes mentioned. Examples must be used.
4.
 - a) Explain what are subject headings and descriptors, using examples and pointing to their similarities, differences and usefulness to users of an OPAC.
 - b) Discuss the issues concerning the **TWO (2)** main considerations in choosing subject headings.
5. Explain how the indexer, user and the creator of work can affect or influence the performance of the catalogue as an information retrieval system. Describe **THREE (3)** input quality measures which can be used and **THREE (3)** search techniques which can be provided for, to assist the user in finding information using a catalogue.
6. Write brief notes on all of the following. Each carries equal marks.
 - Types of subject headings used in *Sears List of Subject Headings*
 - Recall and Precision as output measures of an information retrieval system
 - Merits of the *Dewey Decimal Classification* scheme
 - Faceted Application of Subject Terminology (FAST)

END OF PAPER