



# THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

## EXAMINATION OF DECEMBER 2006

Code and Name of Course: **LS60B – INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIETY**

Paper:

Date and Time: **Tuesday, December 12, 2006 1:00 pm**

Duration: **3 hrs.**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: This paper has 2 page(s) and 6 questions**

**ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION IS EQUAL TO 20 MARKS.**

1. Warschauer in his article *Reconceptualising the Digital Divide* states that “technology and society are intertwined and co-constitutive”. Explain your understanding of this statement as it relates to a framework for addressing the digital divide.
2. Select **two (2)** areas from the following list of social and economic activities and analyse the transformative impact that the development and application of ICT’s are making in these areas.
  - a. Business
  - b. Travel and tourism
  - c. Manufacturing
  - d. Governance
  - e. Media and culture
  - f. Education
  - g. Information management
  - h. Health/medicine
3. Identify the main multilateral agreements that have marked the emergence of a global information and communication economy and discuss the performance of developing countries this economy. (Provide examples to illustrate your answer)
4. Briefly explain each of the following:
  - a. The difference between the process model of communication and the semiotic model
  - b. Convergence
  - c. New media environments in the digital age
  - d. Transactional mediated communication

*Five (5) marks each*

5. Compare and contrast perspectives on the "information society" as exemplified, respectively, by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process, William Martin and Manuel Castells.
  
6. Discuss the extent to which the experience of any **one (1)** non-Caribbean region or country provides an example of how the Caribbean could address the main policy issues relating to deployment, access, and use of ICT's.

**END OF PAPER**