

COM 421



OFFICE OF THE DVC
ACADEMICS, STUDENT AFFAIRS AND RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2023 /2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FOURTH YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
COMPUTER SCIENCE

MAIN EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: COM 421

COURSE TITLE: ENGINEERING AND SOFTWARE LAW

DATE: 15/04/2024 TIME: 0900 – 1200 HRS

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

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THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF 3 PRINTED PAGES

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MAIN EXAMINATION

Course Code---: Course Title-----COM 421 Engineering and Software Law-----

STREAM: BSc (Computer Science)

DURATION: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- i. Answer **ALL** questions from section A and any **THREE** from section B.
- ii. Maps and diagrams should be used whenever they serve to illustrate the answer.
- iii. Do not write on the question paper.

SECTION A (24 MARKS) COMPULSORY

QUESTION ONE

[12 MARKS]

- a) ICTs play a vital role in enhancing social –economic development of our country. Outline **SIX** ways through which ICTs can positively influence national development. [6 marks]
- b) Outline the **FIVE** key elements of information systems social ethics [5 marks]
- c) What are Professional Ethics? [1 mark]

QUESTION TWO

[12 MARKS]

- a) The present generation is said to be living in the information Age. Discuss.[5 marks]
- b) Discuss **FOUR** ways on how to prevent Computer Crimes among the society[4 marks]
- c) Explain what you understand by the term Data Protection Laws [3 marks]

SECTION B [36 MARKS] ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS]

QUESTION THREE

[12 MARKS]

- a) Distinguish between privacy and confidentiality hence explain how nation-states address the apparent conflict between these two factors [4 marks]
- b) Explain how the concepts of “fair use” in the copyright in cost literary works. Discuss whether or not this concept should be used with computing. [6 marks]
- c) Differentiate between a law and a policy [2 marks]

QUESTION FOUR

[12 MARKS]

- a) Describe at least **FOUR** types of computer crimes highlighting their implication [8 marks]
- b) Define the term digital divide and further explain how it can be bridged [3 marks]
- c) What is ethics? [1 mark]

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QUESTION FIVE [12 MARKS]

- a) There is an on-going conflict between privacy of personal data and access to information. Discuss these two seemingly contradictory ideas. [5 marks]
- b) Explain **THREE** different ways protecting software against piracy. [3 marks]
- c) Computer technology is a double-edged sword. Discuss the relevance of this statement in the world today [4 marks]

QUESTION SIX [12 Marks]

- a) Explain the ethical theory of Utilitarianism to a group of students before they clear out of college to face the job market. [10 marks]
- b) Explain two instances under which breach of a contract can occur [2marks]

QUESTION SEVEN [12 MARKS]

- a) Alum is working as a Business analyst. One afternoon when browsing through desktop files, he realizes that his supervisor installed desktop sharing application on his computer in order to monitor his workplace activity. Alum never got notified about the software installation and he believes that such actions demonstrate lack of faith in his ability to work professionally. On the other hand, the supervisor is convinced that he is entitled to monitor workplace activities of his staff member. Using the ethical analysis template as a guide identify the ethical issues, and conduct ethical analysis using an ethical theory of your choice. [7marks]
- b) c) In the digital age protection of intellectual property rights is core to the success of the organization since it gives the organization the competitive edge.
 - i. Briefly explain what is meant by intellectual property [1mark]
 - ii. State four ways that intellectual property is protected [4marks]