PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Where Leaders are Made

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS: 2025/2026
EXAMINATION FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/BACHELOR OF BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

BSIT403: PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN IT
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

DATE: MONDAY 27TH JULY, 2026 **TIME: 3 HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS: Question One is Compulsory, Choose Three Other Questions

SECTION A (COMPULSORY)

QUESTION ONE (15 Marks) Compulsory

a) Explain the concept "Professional Ethics" and discuss the importance of ethics to IT professionals. **(2 Marks)**

b) Information can only be of some value if it bears “GOOD” qualities. Explain four qualities of GOOD information. **(2 Marks)**

c) Differentiate between computer crime and computer abuse, use appropriate examples. **(2 marks)**

d) Describe three health risks that arise from the use of computers. **(3 marks)**

e) Examine three areas a corporate code of ethics should address. Give examples of items that must be covered in each area. **(6 marks)**

SECTION B (ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION)

QUESTION TWO (15 marks)

a) Distinguish between the basic concepts of responsibility, accountability, and liability as applied to ethical decisions. **(3 marks)**

b) Explain the concept "profiling" and two advantages and two disadvantages of its use. **(6 marks)**

c) Discuss the impact of contemporary information systems and the internet on the protection of individual privacy and intellectual property. **(6 marks)**

QUESTION THREE (15 marks)

a) Describe a five-step process for analyzing an ethical issue. **(5 marks)**

b) Using clear examples, discuss five key technology trends that raise ethical issues. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR (15 marks)

a) Discuss computer forensics and any three problems that it deals with. **(6 marks)**

b) With relevant examples, examine any three impacts of the computer and the Internet to the social fabric of the society. **(9 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE (15 marks)

a) Examine three approaches for promoting ethical conduct. **(3 Marks)**

b) Discuss three exclusive rights given by “COPYRIGHTS” to the owner of the copyrights. **(6 Marks)**

c) Describe the three moral dimensions raised by Information Technology. **(6 Marks)**

QUESTION SIX (15 marks)

Imagine you are a senior IT manager in an organization. You have been heading a technical evaluation team that has been evaluating a large ICT tender which, after implementation, will lead to major changes in the organization. Your evaluation team has been doing its work as per the firm’s procurement procedures. However towards the end you discover that one of the team members is closely associated with one of the companies that bid for the tender, was involved in its proposal preparation and has been discussing the results of the evaluation with the bidder. These actions have unduly influenced the results of the evaluation and the bidder has won the tender as per the evaluation results. At the same time your boss dismisses the results of the evaluation exercise because the company he would have liked to win the tender did not win it. Indeed he insists that you manipulate the results of the evaluation until the company he favours wins the tender before you officially submit the evaluation report.

(a) Explain key ethical issues. **(3 Marks)**

(b) Describe what actions you would take in line with good ethical practice. Explain the assumptions that you make. **(4 Marks)**

(c) Discuss any two basic functions of ethical thinking. **(8 Marks)**

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