FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING AND TECHNOLOGY
EASTER 2024 SEMESTER <u>EXAMINATION</u>

PROGRAM: *MSc in Data Science & MSc in Computer Science*

YEAR: 1   **SEMESTER:** 1

COURSE CODE: RSM 8101

COURSE NAME: Research Methods and Publications

EXAMINATION TYPE: Project-Based Exam

PROJECT DURATION: March - April

TIME ALLOWED: Two weeks (Submission date: 29th April, 2024)

EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS
1. The general Uganda Christian University examination guidelines and academic & financial policies apply to this examination. Violating any of the policies by the student automatically makes this examination attempt void, even if you have completed and submitted the work.
2. This exam consists of a project to be executed in two weeks.
    i.   Assessment of the project shall be based on five milestones, evaluated as described in **PART B**.
    ii. Each milestone shall be evaluated out of 20 marks.
3. Every student has a responsibility to prove their contribution towards every milestone, and marks may be awarded to every student individually.
4. Students should prepare to make a presentation of their work on 1st May 2024. This will be an online presentation on a link to be communicated. Any candidate who fails to participate in the presentation will forfeit the marks
5. Students will also be required to submit soft copies of their presentation slides through the UCU Moodle platform under the exam 2024 assignment after presenting.
6. Any student who does not present his/her work will be considered to have missed the exam.

SECTION A:
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project entails application of research proposal development skills. You are required in a group of three to identify a research problem within your prepared areas of interest in the Computer Science or Data Science and develop a full proposal to be examined. The examination process will also include conducting an oral presentation at the end of the project (two weeks).

PART B: Project-based assessment guidelines

S/N	Milestone Description	Maximum Marks
1	**MILESTONE ONE: SELECTION OF TOPIC** You are required to critically come up with an appropriate topic for a scholarly research in any area of Computer Science or Data Science of your interest. This topic should clearly depict the type of research study that you intend to undertake; It should be either theoretical, applied or action research. In the introduction section of your write up, highlight the main objectives, research questions/hypotheses, scope of the study and justification of the study.	20 %
2	**MILESTONE TWO: SETTING OF BACKGROUND** With reference to existing knowledge, provide the a clear statement of problem. Issues around the study area showing the need for the study and its significance to the community. Indicate whether other research groups have already tried to solve the problem you're interested in and how your approach might differ. Use of theoretical or conceptual framework will be helpful in demonstrating your research focus and provide a solid background.	20 %
3	**MILESTONE THREE: LITERATURE REVIEW** You are required to review related work from literature in order to contextualize your study and show how it links with previous work and fits within the existing body of knowledge. The write up, this section - Literature Review, should include introductory part, main body with sub-headings under which the literature is reviewed. Note that the review of the related literature should be guided by the objectives and the research questions or hypotheses and it should be a substantial, selective, balanced, comprehensive and evaluative review of the relevant literature on or around the subject of the current investigation. Your review should identify the gap in the literature that the research study seeks to address.	20 %
4	**MILESTONE FOUR: METHODOLOGY** The submission should demonstrate that a scientific approach was adopted and any recommendation or assertion of new knowledge should be a result of a proper methodology that includes but not limited to: research design, well aligned research approach, methods and sources of data, population and sampling techniques, variables and indicators, measurement levels (where necessary), procedure/protocols for data collection.	20 %
5	**MILESTONE FIVE: ORAL PRESENTATION** Every student is expected to produce between 25 and 30 pages of research proposal as an output of this project.It should be well formatted following official guidelines contained in the UCU research Manual. There should be a an oral presentation on Saturday 27th April 2024. Presentation files should be submitted for assessment.	20 %
	TOTAL MARKS	**100 %**

~END OF EXAM GUIDELINES~