

# **451 - COMPUTER STUDIES**

## **GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course, the learner should be able to:

1. appreciate computers and their components;
2. develop basic skills in the safe use and care of computers and their peripheral devices;
3. be acquainted with the fundamental concepts of computing;
4. appreciate the use of computers in different areas of application;
5. appreciate the impact of computer technology on society;
6. develop the skills to use application packages;
7. appreciate programming and acquire the knowledge to write and run simple programmes;
8. identify different educational and occupational opportunities available in the computing field;
9. acquire a firm base for further education, training and the world of work.

### **1.0.0 INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS**

#### **1.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) state the different parts of a computer;
- b) explain how computers have developed;
- c) classify the various types of computers;
- d) state the safety precautions and practices in a computer laboratory;
- e) demonstrate basic hands-on-skills on the use of a computer.

#### **1.2.0 Content**

- 1.2.1 Definition of a computer
- 1.2.2 Parts of a computer
- 1.2.3 Development of computers
- 1.2.4 Classification of computers
  - Physical Size
  - Functionality
  - Purpose
- 1.2.5 Areas where computers are used
- 1.2.6 Definition of a computer laboratory
- 1.2.7 Safety precautions and practices in a computer laboratory
  - Behaviour
  - Handling of materials and equipment
  - Fire
  - Cabling
  - Stable power supply

- Burglar proofing
  - Ventilation
  - Lab layout
  - Dust/damp control
  - Lighting
  - Standard furniture
- 1.2.8 Hands-on skills
- Start-up, restarting and shut-down (Booting)
  - Keyboard layout
  - Practical keyboard and mouse skills

## 2.0.0 COMPUTER SYSTEMS

### 2.1.0 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) describe a computer system;
- b) explain the functional organization of the elements of a computer system;
- c) describe input devices of a computer system;
- d) describe the central processing unit (CPU);
- e) describe the output devices of a computer system;
- f) describe the types of secondary storage devices and media;
- g) distinguish between power and interface cables;
- h) explain basic computer set-up and cabling;
- i) distinguish between system software and application software;
- j) evaluate the criteria for selecting a computer system.

### 2.2.0 Content

#### 2.2.1 Description of a computer system

#### 2.2.2 Functional organization of the elements of a computer system

- Hardware
- Software
- Live-ware

#### 2.2.3 Input devices e.g.

- Keying devices
- Pointing devices
- Scanning devices
- Speech recognition devices
- Other digital devices

#### 2.2.4 Central Processing Unit (CPU)

- Control Unit
- Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU)
- Memory
- Processors
  - (i) types
  - (ii) clock speeds

### 2.2.5 Output Devices

- Soft copy output devices e.g.
  - i) Visual display unit – Liquid Crystal Display (LCD), flat panel, cathode ray tube (CRT)
  - ii) Sound output
  - iii) Light emitting
- Hard copy output devices e.g.
  - i) printers (impact, non-impact)
  - ii) plotters

### 2.2.6 Secondary/Auxiliary Storage Devices and Media

- Fixed e.g. Hard disk
- Removable e.g.
  - i) floppy disks
  - ii) tape
  - iii) optical disks (CD-R, WORM, CD-RW, DVDs)
  - iv) zip disks

### 2.2.7 Power and Interface Cables

- Power cable
- Parallel cable
- Serial cable

### 2.2.8 Basic computer Set-up and Cabling

- Connecting basic computer components
- Connecting other computer peripherals

### 2.2.9 Classification of software

- Purpose
  - a) System software
    - i) firmware
    - ii) networking software
    - iii) operating system
    - iv) utilities
  - b) Application software
- Acquisition
  - (i) standard software
  - (ii) user developed (in-house)

### 2.2.10 Criteria for selecting a computer system (specifications)

#### Hardware considerations

- Processor speed
- Memory capacity
- Warranty
- Upgradability
- User needs
- Cost
- Portability
- Other considerations

### Software considerations

- Authenticity
- User needs
- User friendliness
- System requirements
- Cost
- Compatibility
- Portability
- Documentation
- Other software considerations

## 3.0.0 OPERATING SYSTEMS

### 3.1.0 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define an operating system;
- b) state the functions of an operating system;
- c) describe types of operating systems;
- d) describe how operating systems organize information;
- e) manage files using an operating system;
- f) manage disks using an operating system;
- g) identify internal and peripheral devices under Operating System control.

### 3.2.0 Content

#### 3.2.1 Definition of an operating system

#### 3.2.2 Functions of an operating system

- Job scheduling
- Resource control
- Input/output handling
- Memory management
- Error handling
- Interrupt handling

#### 3.2.3 Types of Operating Systems

- Number of users
  - i) single user
  - ii) multi user
    - Number of tasks
      - i) single tasking
      - ii) multi tasking
- Interface
  - i) command line
  - ii) menu driven interface
  - iii) Graphical user interface (GUI)

#### 3.2.4 Organization of Information using an operating system

- Files
  - Directories/folders
  - Storage media
- 3.2.5 File management using an operating system
- Description of files
  - Types of files
    - i) system files
    - ii) application files
  - Functions of files
    - i) storage of data
    - ii) organization of information
  - Creating files
  - Manipulating files
    - i) viewing files and directories
    - ii) organization of information
    - iii) creating files/directories
    - iv) opening
    - v) editing
    - vi) renaming
    - vii) finding/searching
    - viii) sorting
    - ix) copying
    - x) moving
    - xi) deleting
- 3.2.6 Disk Management using an operating system
- Formatting
  - Partitioning
  - Defragmentation
  - Disk diagnostics/Disk compression
  - Back up
- 3.2.7 Devices under operating system control
- Processor
  - Memory (Ram)
  - Storage devices
  - Input/output devices and ports
  - Communication devices and ports
- 3.2.8 Installation and configuration of an operating system
- Trouble shooting

#### **4.0.0 APPLICATION PACKAGES**

- 4.1.0 Word processors
- 4.2.0 Spreadsheet
- 4.3.0 Database
- 4.4.0 Desktop publishing

#### 4.5.0 Internet and E-Mail

### 4.1.0 WORD PROCESSORS

#### 4.1.1 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define a word processor;
- b) state the purpose of word processing;
- c) use a word processing package;
- d) format and edit a document;
- e) create and edit a table;
- f) create and update a mail-merge document;
- g) print a document;
- h) insert and edit objects.

#### 4.1.2 Content

##### 4.1.21 definition of a word-processor

##### 4.1.22 Purpose of word processing e.g

- Letter preparation
- Reports
- Newsletters

##### 4.1.23 Using a Word processing package

- Getting started
- Screen layout
- Running the program
  - i) Creating a document
  - ii) Saving
  - iii) Retrieving
  - iv) Closing
  - v) Exiting

##### 4.1.24 Editing and formatting a document

- Editing a document
- Block options
  - i) Selecting
  - ii) Moving
  - iii) Copying
  - iv) Deleting
  - v) Inserting and type over
- Find and replace
  - i) Search/find
  - ii) Replace
- Proof-reading
  - i) Spelling and grammar checking
  - ii) Thesaurus
  - iii) Auto-correct
  - iv) Undo and redo

- Formatting a document
- a) Text formatting
  - i) Bolding
  - ii) Italizing
  - iii) Underlining
  - iv) Fonts
  - v) Drop caps
  - vi) Change case
  - vii) Superscript/subscript
- b) Paragraph formatting
  - i) alignment
  - ii) indenting
  - iii) spacing
  - iv) section breaks
  - v) bullets and numbering
- c) Page formatting
  - Layout
    - i) columns
    - ii) headers/footers
  - Setup
    - i) Margins
    - ii) Orientations
    - iii) Paper size
    - iv) Tabs

#### 4.1.25 Creating and Editing a Table

- Create a table
  - i) Rows
  - ii) Columns
- Enter data
- Editing tables
  - i) Resizing rows/columns
  - ii) Inserting rows/columns
  - iii) Deleting rows/columns
  - iv) Merging rows/columns
  - v) Splitting rows/columns
- Formatting tables
  - i) Borders
  - ii) shading
- Table conversions
  - i) Converting text to table
  - ii) Converting table to text
  - iii) Importing
- Arithmetic calculations
  - i) Perform calculation
  - ii) Insert formulae
- Sorting

#### 4.1.26 Sorting creating and updating a mail merge document

- Creating main document
  - i) Form letters
  - ii) Labels
  - iii) envelopes
- create/import data source
  - i) editing
  - ii) saving
- Merging Fields
- Main and data source to
  - i) Printer or
  - ii) New window or
  - iii) Fax or
  - iv) E-mail
- Updating merged document

#### 4.1.27 Printing a document

- i) Printer setup
- ii) Print preview
- iii) Print option
  - printer selection
  - orientation
  - page and copies
- iv) Pr̄nting

#### 4.1.28 Inserting Graphics

- Types of graphics
  - i) Drawing
  - ii) Pictures
  - iii) Charts
- Inserting
  - i) importing
  - ii) drawing
- Editing graphical objects
  - i) Updating
  - ii) Resizing
  - iii) Enhance

### 4.2.0 SPREAD SHEET

#### 4.2.1 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define a spreadsheet;
- b) describe the components of a spreadsheet;
- c) state the application areas of a spreadsheet;
- d) create and edit a worksheet;
- e) explain different cell data types;
- f) apply cell referencing;

- g) apply functions and formulae;
- h) apply worksheet formatting;
- i) apply data management skills;
- j) apply charting and graphing skills;
- k) print worksheet and graph.

#### **4.2.2 Content**

- 4.2.21 Definition of a Spreadsheet
- 4.2.22 Components of a spreadsheet
  - i) worksheet
  - ii) database
  - iii) graphs
- 4.2.23 Application areas of a spreadsheet
  - Statistical analysis
  - Accounting
  - Data management
  - Forecasting (what if analysis)
  - Scientific application
- 4.2.24 Creating a worksheet/workbook
  - Getting started
  - Worksheet layout
  - Running the program
    - i) creating a worksheet
    - ii) editing a cell entity
    - iii) saving
    - iv) retrieving
    - v) closing a worksheet
    - vi) exiting from spreadsheet
- 4.2.25 Cell Data Types
  - Labels
  - Values
  - Formulae
  - Functions
- 4.2.26 Cell referencing
  - Cell addressing
  - Absolute referencing
  - Relative referencing
- 4.2.27 Basic functions and formulae
  - Functions
    - i) statistical (average, count, max, min)
    - ii) logical (if, count-if sum-if)
    - iii) mathematical (sum, product, div)
  - Arithmetic formulae (using operators +,-,/,\*, brackets)
- 4.2.28 Worksheet formatting

- Text
  - Numbers
  - Rows and columns
  - Global
- 4.2.29 Data management
- Sorting
  - Filtering
  - Total/subtotals function
  - Forms
- 4.2.30 Charts/graphs
- Types
  - Data ranges
  - Labels
  - Headings and titles
  - Legends
- 4.2.31 Printing
- i) page set-up
  - ii) print preview
  - iii) print options
- select printer
  - selection
  - worksheet/workbook
  - orientation
  - pages and copies
  - v) printing

### 4.3.0 DATABASES

#### 4.3.1 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define a database;
- b) explain the concepts of a database;
- c) explain data organization in a database;
- d) create a database;
- e) edit a database;
- f) design a form;
- g) apply basic concepts of queries;
- h) create report and labels;
- i) print queries, forms and reports.

#### 4.3.2 Content

##### 4.3.21 Definition of Database

##### 4.3.22 Database concepts

- Traditional filing methods (manual flat files)
- Functions of databases

- Types of database models
  - Database software
  - Features of a database (e.g. data structures, report generating, query language, modules)
- 4.3.23 Data Organization
- Character types
  - Fields
  - Records
  - Files
  - Database
- 4.3.24 Creating a database
- Design a database structure
  - Field properties and data types
  - Key-fields and index
  - Data entry
- 4.3.25 Editing a database
- Modify structure
  - Updating database
- 4.3.26 Form design
- Form layout
  - Data manipulation
  - Formatting fields
- 4.3.27 Queries
- Creating
  - Updating
  - Viewing
  - Printing
- 4.3.28 Reports layout
- Creating (using relational and logical operator, local operators – AND OR, NOT)
  - Modifying
  - Sorting and grouping
  - Labeling
  - Printing

#### 4.4.0 DESKTOP PUBLISHING (DTP)

##### 4.4.1 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define desktop publishing;
- b) state the purpose of DTP;
- c) identify types of DTP software;
- d) design a publication;
- e) edit a publication;
- f) format a publication;
- g) print a publication.

#### **4.4.2 Content**

4.4.21 Definition of Desktop publishing

4.4.22 Purposes of DTP

- Graphic design
- Page layout design
- Printing

4.4.23 Types of DTP software

- Graphical based
- Layout based

4.4.24 Designing a publication

- Types of publications e.g. newsletters, cards, brochures, posters etc
- Running the program
- Screen layout
- Setting up a publication
- Manipulating text and graphics

4.4.25 Editing a publication

- Editing tools

4.4.26 Formatting a Publication

- Text
- Graphics

4.4.27 Printing

- Page set up
- Print options

### **4.5.0 INTERNET AND E-MAIL**

#### **4.5.1 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define internet;
- b) explain the importance of internet;
- c) describe internet connectivity;
- d) identify internet services;
- e) access internet;
- f) use e-mail facilities;
- g) state the moral, social and spiritual issues that may emerge through access to the internet.

#### **4.5.2 Content**

4.5.21 Definition of internet

4.5.22 Development of internet

4.5.23 Importance of internet

4.5.24 Internet connectivity

- Telecommunication facilities
- Modems

- Internet services providers (ISP)
  - Internet software
- 4.5.25 Internet services e.g.
- World Wide Web (www)
  - Electronic mail (e-mail)
  - Electronic Commerce (e-commerce)
  - Electronic Learning (e-learning)
- 4.5.26 Accessing Internet
- Log-in/sign-in
  - Surf/browse
  - Search engines and hyperlinks
  - Downloading/saving/printing
- 4.5.27 Electronic Mail (e-mail)
- Definition
  - E-mail software
  - E-mail facilities
    - i) Mails (checking, composing, forwarding, sending, saving and printing)
    - ii) Fax
    - iii) File attachment
    - iv) On-line meetings
    - v) Telephone messages
    - vi) Contact management

**NB:** Emphasis is on the procedure and not necessarily on on-line connectivity

4.5.28 Use the internet to access information on emerging issues e.g.

- HIV/AIDS
- Drug abuse
- Environmental issues
- Moral integrity

## 5.0.0 DATA SECURITY AND CONTROLS

### 5.1.0 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- define the terms data security and privacy;
- identify security threats on ICT and possible control measures;
- identify types of computer crimes.

### 5.2.0 Content

#### 5.2.1 Definition of data security and privacy

#### 5.2.2 Security threats and control measures

- Threats e.g.
  - i) virus
  - ii) unauthored access
  - iii) computer errors and accidents

- 4.1.26 Section iv) theft updating a real recovery strategy scenario
- Control measures e.g.
    - i) anti-virus software
    - ii) password
    - iii) user access levels
    - iv) backups
- 5.2.3 Computer crimes e.g.
- i) trespass
  - ii) hacking
  - iii) tapping
  - iv) cracking
  - v) piracy
  - vi) fraud
  - vii) sabotage
  - viii) alteration
- Detection and Protection e.g.
    - i) audit trail
    - ii) data encryption
    - iii) log files
    - iv) firewalls
- 5.2.4 Laws governing protection of information systems

## 6.0.0 DATA REPRESENTATION IN A COMPUTER

### 6.1.0 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) explain concepts and reasons for data representation in a computer
- b) define the terms bit, byte, nibble and word
- c) explain types of data representation in the computer
- d) perform binary arithmetic operations.

### 6.2.0 Content

- 6.2.1 Concepts and Reasons of data representation
- 6.2.2 Definition of terms: bit, byte, nibble and word
- 6.2.3 Types of data representation.
- Number Systems and their representation of integral values
    - i) decimal
    - ii) binary
    - iii) octal
    - iv) hexadecimal
  - Symbolic representation
    - i) Binary Coded Decimal Code (BCD)
    - ii) Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code (EBCDIC)
    - iii) American Standard Code for Information Interchange Code (ASCII)
- 6.2.4 Conversion between binary and decimal

**6.2.4 Binary arithmetic operations**

- Binary addition
- Binary subtraction
- (i) ones complement
- (ii) twos complement

**7.0.0 DATA PROCESSING**

**7.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define the terms data, information and data processing;
- b) describe data processing cycle;
- c) explain types of errors in data processing;
- d) explain the various methods of data processing;
- e) describe data integrity;
- f) describe a computer file;
- g) describe types of computer files;
- h) describe file organization methods;
- i) describe the various data processing modes.

**7.2.0 Content**

**7.2.1 Definition of the terms data, information and data processing**

**7.2.2 Data processing cycle**

- Data collection
  - i) stages of data collection
  - ii) methods of data collection
- Data input
- Processing
- Output

**7.2.3 Description of errors in data processing e.g.**

- Transcription errors
- Transposition

**7.2.4 Data processing methods**

- Manual/conventional
- Mechanical
- Electronic

**7.2.5 Data Integrity**

- Accuracy
- Timeless
- Relevance

**7.2.6 Computer files**

- Elements of computer file
- Logical and physical files

**7.2.7 Types of computer processing files e.g.**

- Master

- Transaction
  - Report
  - Sort
  - Backup
  - Reference
- 7.2.8 File organization methods
- Sequential
  - Random/direct
  - Serial
  - Indexed sequential
- 7.2.9 Electronic Data processing modes
- On-line
  - Distributed
  - Time-sharing
  - Batch processing
  - Multi-processing
  - Multi programming/multi-tasking
  - Interactive processing
  - Real-time

## **8.0.0 ELEMENTARY PROGRAMMING PRINCIPLES**

### **8.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) define Programming;
- b) describe the various levels of programming languages;
- c) state the advantages and disadvantages of each level of the programming language;
- d) define the terms assembler, compiler, interpreter, source program and object program;
- e) describe the stages of program development;
- f) describe the program control structures;
- g) define and develop algorithm, pseudo-code and flowchart.

### **8.2.0 Content**

#### **8.2.1 Definition of Programming**

#### **8.2.2 Levels of programming languages**

- Low level language
  - i) machine
  - ii) assembly
- High Level languages
  - i) third Generation Languages (3GLS)
  - ii) four Generation Languages (4 GLs)
  - iii) Object Oriented Programming (OOPs)
  - iv) Internet (scripting) Programming Languages

8.3.3 Advantages and disadvantages of low and high level languages

8.4.4 Description of terms

- i) assembler
- ii) compiler
- iii) interpreter
- iv) source program
- v) object program

8.4.5 program development

- problem recognition
- problem definition
- program design
- program coding
- program testing
- implementation

8.4.6 Program Control Structure

- Sequence
- Selection
- Iteration (looping)

8.6.7 Definition and development of Algorithm

- Pseudo-code
- Flow chart

## 9.0.0 SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

9.1.0 Specific Objectives

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) describe a system;
- b) define an information system;
- c) state the purpose of an information system;
- d) identify the stages of system development;
- e) develop a system using a case study;
- f) write a report on the case study.

9.2.0 Content

9.2.1 Description of a system

9.2.2 Definition of an Information System

9.2.3 Purpose of an Information System

9.2.4 Stages of system development

- Problem recognition and definition
- Information gathering e.g
  - i) investigation
  - ii) observation
  - iii) interviews
  - iv) questionnaires
- Requirement specification for the new system
- System design

- System construction
  - System implementation
  - System review and maintenance
- (\*A number of theories exist on system development. The above is a general guide to the stages)

#### 9.2.5 System Documentation

- Reports on fact finding/information gathering
- System flowchart
- Table/file structure/descriptions
- Sample data
- Output reports
- User manual

### **10.0.0 INTRODUCTION TO NETWORKING AND DATA COMMUNICATION**

#### **10.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- define computer networking TERMS;
- state the purpose of computer networks;
- describe the elements of a network;
- describe various types of networks;
- describe various types of network topologies.

#### **10.2.0 Content**

##### 10.2.1 Definition of terms

- computer networks
- data communication

##### 10.2.2 Purpose and Limitations of networking

- Purpose
  - resource sharing
  - remote communication
  - distributed processing facilities
  - cost effectiveness
  - reliability
- Limitations

##### 10.2.3 Elements of Networking

- Data communication media
- Communication with cables
  - twisted pair cables
  - coaxial cables
  - fibre-optic cables
- Communication without cables (wireless) e.g.
  - Microwave
  - satellite
  - radio transmission

- b) Data Signal
    - Analog
    - Digital
  - c) Communication Devices e.g.
    - Modems
    - Network cards
    - Hubs
  - d) Network software
    - Operating systems
    - Protocols
- 10.2.4 Types of Networks
  - Local Area Network (LAN)
  - Metropolitan area Network (MAN)
  - Wide Area Network (WAN)
- 10.2.4 Types of Network topologies e.g.
  - Ring
  - Star
  - Bus

## **11.0.0 APPLICATION AREAS OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY**

### **11.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to describe the use of computers in different application areas.

### **11.2.0 Content**

#### **11.2.1 Application Areas of Information and Communication Technology**

- Financial Systems
  - a) accounting
  - b) banking
  - c) payroll
- Retail Systems
  - i) point of sale systems
  - ii) stock control
- Reservations Systems
  - i) hotels
  - ii) air-lines
- Communication Systems
  - i) fax and telex
  - vi) radio
  - vii) television
  - viii) video conferencing
  - ix) e-mail
  - x) telecommuting

- xi) internet
- Education
  - i) Computer Aided Learning (CAL)
  - ii) e-learning
  - iii) computer based simulation
- Industrial systems
  - i) simulation
  - ii) process control
  - iii) CAD (Computer Aided Design)/CAM (Computer Aided Manufacture)
- Scientific and Research Systems
  - i) weather forecasting
  - ii) medical research
  - iii) military/space exploration
- Transportation Systems
  - i) air-traffic control
  - ii) shipping control
  - iii) automobile traffic control
- Entertainment Systems
  - i) computers and movies
  - ii) multi-media
- Virtual reality
  - i) uses of virtual reality
  - ii) visor
- Library Systems
  - Library lending system
- Home use
- Health
- Expert systems
- Offices
  - Expert systems
- Offices
  - Expert systems
- Marketing
  - i) e-commerce
  - ii) business

#### 11.2.2 Fieldwork Report

### **12.0.0 IMPACT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) ON SOCIETY**

#### **12.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to:

- a) identify issues resulting from the use of ICT;
- b) discuss future trends in ICT.

## **12.2.0 Content**

### **12.2.1 Issues resulting from use of ICT**

- a) Effects on employment
    - job creation
    - job replacement
    - job displacement
  - b) Automated production
    - pros & cons
  - c) Issues of workers health
  - d) Breakthroughs
    - Health care
    - Education
    - Communication
    - Research
    - Commerce
    - Arts
    - Entertainment
    - Transport
  - e) Cultural effects
    - Computer crimes
    - Moral effects
- 12.2.2 Evolution of computer systems
- Possible future trends in capabilities, physical size, price, software etc
  - Artificial intelligence
    - i) expert systems
    - ii) natural language processing
    - iii) artificial neural networks
    - iv) robotics

## **13.0.0 CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN ICT**

### **13.1.0 Specific Objectives**

By the end of the topic, the learner should be able to  
describe career opportunities in ICT.

## **13.2.0 Content**

### **13.2.1 Description of careers in the field of ICT e.g.**

- i) Computer Operators
- ii) Programmers
- iii) Software Engineers
- iv) Database Administrators
- v) System Administrators
- vi) Computer Technicians
- vii) Computer Engineers
- viii) Information Systems Managers
- ix) Computer Trainers

- x) Web Administrators
- xi) Systems Analysts

### 13.2.2 Identification of further Educational Opportunities

- i) Colleges
- ii) Institutions
- iii) Polytechnics
- iv) Universities
- v) Research Institutions

## 14.0.0 PROJECT

### 14.1.0 Specific Objectives

By the end of the Project, the learner should be able to:

- a) identify and define a problem;
- b) carry out fact finding through either or all of these methods:
  - i) investigation
  - ii) observation
  - iii) interviews
  - iv) questionnaires;
- c) define systems hardware and software requirement;
- d) design a system;
- e) construct a system that would:
  - i) input data through forms or screen
  - ii) update: modification, deletion of existing data
  - iii) carry out data validation
  - iv) search/filter/query/retrieve records
  - v) generate/print reports.
- f) test the system;
- g) prepare a project report  
(documentation) that includes
  - i) reports on fact finding system flowchart/flow diagram
  - ii) system flowchart/flow diagram
  - iii) table/file structure descriptions
  - iv) sample input and test data
  - v) output reports
  - vi) user manual.

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Schools intending to offer Computer Studies are expected to have the following minimum equipment:

- i) Computer Laboratory/classroom(s)
- ii) Computer desks that accommodate monitor at eye level

- iii) At least one computer per every four students (1:4) in Forms one and two and one computer for every two students (1:2) for Forms three and four.
- iv) At least one printer for every four computers
- v) Printing Stationery
- vi) Appropriate storage devices e.g. diskettes
- vii) Storage facilities for diskettes and other consumables e.g. disk banks
- viii) Appropriate software for the curriculum
- ix) Relevant reference materials

**Note:** *The computers to be used for the course should preferably be IBMs or IBM-compatibles due to their low maintenance costs and availability of spare parts.*

In addition to the above, the following facilities though not mandatory will greatly assist in achieving the objectives of the course.

## **1. HARDWARE**

- i) The PCs should be Pentium II or higher
- ii) The PCs should have a CD-ROM drive
- iii) At least one of the PCs in the school should be full multimedia
- iv) A network environment
- v) Internet connection
- vii) Printers with graphic capabilities (not necessarily in colour)

## **2. SOFTWARE**

- i) It is recommended though not necessary that the operating system be a Graphical User Interface (GUI)
- ii) Software for the application packages may also be GUI – based which supports pointing devices
- iii) Up to date anti-virus software are highly recommended.