

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE REMOVED FROM THE EXAMINATION HALL



**UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**

CO3320 ZA

BSc EXAMINATION

COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS and CREATIVE COMPUTING

Project

Thursday 16 May 2019: 10.00 – 12.15

Time allowed: 2 hours and 15 minutes

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL TOLD TO BEGIN

**NO STUDENT REPORT COPY OR COPY OF THE SUBJECT GUIDE IS
ALLOWED IN THE EXAMINATION HALL**

Candidates should answer **all FOUR** questions.

The examination is about your project report and the manner in which you conducted your project, in order to be able to write the project report. While there are some general questions, which are to be answered according to your knowledge of doing projects, there are also specific questions that must be answered in relation to your particular project.

Each question is worth 25 marks.

Calculators are not permitted in this examination.

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Question 1 Project topic and structure

- (a) State the title of your project, and describe how the topic is related to what you have learned during the course of your studies. Which course of the degree (apart from CO3320) do you regard as helping you most in conducting your project? Explain why. [9]
- (b) Explain the difference between aims and objectives in the context of a project. Give one of the aims and one of the objectives of your own project as an example. [8]
- (c) In the initial planning stages of your project, which task on your project plan did you find most challenging in terms of estimating how long it would take you to complete? Discuss why this was the case, and what steps you took at the initial planning stages to reduce or otherwise deal with this uncertainty. [8]

Question 2 Academic writing

- (a) What are the reasons for doing background reading when formulating your project? [6]
- (b) Some kinds of references are more reliable than others. Explain what makes some material reliable and other material less reliable. Then, relating to your own project, give one example of a reliable kind of reference that you used, and one example of one that is a less reliable sort. For each, also explain why you consider it to be either reliable or less reliable. [10]
- (c) What is the purpose of a reference list in a project report? Give an example from your own report of one entry from the reference list, and show the citation style you used to refer to this entry in the main text of your report. We do not expect you to remember the precise details of the reference, but the information you give should be sufficient for the examiner to know which entry in your reference list you are referring to. [6]
- (d) Is it essential to include all of the sources you read for your background reading in your reference list? Explain why or why not. [3]

Question 3 Project outcomes

(a) It is possible to convey the results of a project or piece of research in a number of different ways. For example, they can be presented visually, or they can be presented through descriptive text; there are also a variety of other ways.

i. Why is it important to present results, and in what ways can they be presented? Include in your discussion a description of how results are linked to the project aims, and to the conclusions.

[8]

ii. What way did you choose to present your own results? Discuss why you chose the approach or approaches you did, and justify their appropriateness. Also discuss briefly how your results link to your conclusions.

[10]

(b) Describe any further work you identified in your conclusions. What advice would you give to a student who decided to take on some of the further work as a project of their own? The advice should focus on the topic itself, such as how to go about dealing with a specific further question you may have identified, rather than on conducting projects in general, such as time management.

[7]

Question 4 Self-reflection

- (a) Thinking about all aspects of conducting your project, what is the most important lesson you have learned from the experience? We are looking for something relating to the general skills you have developed, rather than something relating to specific technical details of this particular project. Give reasons for your answer.

[7]

- (b) In the light of the experience you have gained, if you were to attempt another project of a similar size, in what ways would your approach differ from how you did things this time?

Your answer should include a discussion of **THREE** different aspects of the project. These may be chosen from the following list, although other aspects are acceptable too:

- Defining aims and objectives
- Literature review
- Project plan
- Methodology
- Project development
- Testing and evaluation
- Data analysis
- Writing the project report.

For each of your chosen three aspects, explain what you felt were the weaknesses in your current project with regard to that aspect, and how you would intend to improve them in the new project.

[18]

END OF PAPER