

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE REMOVED FROM THE EXAMINATION HALL



**UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**

CO3320 ZB

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 Academic writing

- (a) What is a citation, and what is a reference? Why is it important to use both citations and references in academic writing? [7]
- (b) What is the purpose of the literature review (or literature survey) in the project report? [8]
- (c) What was the most important background source that influenced your project? We are looking for influence in terms of the specific subject area of your project, rather than in how to conduct a project in general. State the authors and title of the work, and give as much bibliographic detail as you can. (Do not worry if you cannot remember page numbers, or exact initials of all the authors; it is sufficient if you give enough detail to allow someone to identify the publication.) Then give a brief description of the content of this source, and discuss the particular impact it had on your own work. [10]

Question 2 Project topic and aims

- (a) State the title of your project, and explain briefly how you chose the subject area. [4]
- (b) Describe your main research or investigation question. If you had more than one, describe the one you consider to be the most significant. [3]
- (c) Explain what objectives are, in the context of developing a project. What were the objectives you identified for your own project, and how did they relate to your aim(s)? [10]
- (d) Did you make use of a supervisor? If so, explain what the advantages were, and if there were any disadvantages. If you did not have a supervisor, explain why, and whether there were any disadvantages to not having a supervisor.

Include the following in your discussion:

- If you made use of a supervisor, explain what the most important role was that your supervisor played in your project, and also describe whether there were any areas where they were not helpful.
- If you did not use a supervisor, describe how you overcame any of the difficulties you may have had in not having a supervisor. If you had no difficulties, then please describe any potential difficulties that a student could have, and why you did not have such difficulties.

We are looking for answers that show insight and reflection of your experiences during the project, whether they were positive or otherwise. [8]

Question 3 Data analysis and project conclusions

- (a) What is the difference between qualitative and quantitative data? Include in your answer one example of each type, from your own project if possible or from elsewhere if you did not use that type of data in your project. [6]

- (b) Discuss the role of data analysis in your project. What data did you collect, what techniques did you use to analyse it, and how did that contribute towards achieving your project aims?

If you did not collect any kind of data in your project, discuss how your project makes an original contribution to the subject area, and what criteria you believe the examiners should use to judge whether your project has been successful. [12]

- (c) 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