UNIVERSITY OF LONDON   **CO3320 ZA**

BSc Examination

COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND CREATIVE COMPUTING

Project

Date and Time: Tuesday 17 May 2016 : 14.30–16.45

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

Attempt all FOUR questions.

Each question is worth 25 marks.

No calculators may be used.

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

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.

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Question 1   Academic writing

(a) What is the purpose of the literature review (or literature survey) in the project report?   [8]

(b) Of the material that you read while doing your project, give examples of material that you included in your own literature review and material you omitted, and explain in both cases why you made those choices. Focus on the content of the material itself, rather than whether it came from a peer-reviewed journal or a random web-page, when you choose your examples.   [8]

(c) When might you include appendices in the project report? Give examples of the kind of things that would be appropriate in an appendix.   [5]

(d) If you included appendices, describe briefly what they contained and why you chose to use them; if you did not, explain why you did not.   [4]

Question 2   Project content

(a) What was the main topic area of your project? Explain briefly how you chose it.   [4]

(b) There are various steps to choosing a project topic and developing the objectives. List and explain 4 of these (in the order they should be done), and describe for each how you did this for your own project.   [12]

(c) List and describe 3 common faults in project reports, and explain what can be done to solve or avoid these. Relate each to your own project.   [9]

Question 3   Project management

(a) 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. [5]

(b) 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. [6]

(c) List and describe some ways of keeping a project on target, and discuss which approaches you made use of in your own project. [8]

(d) Which aspect of your project took more time than you had expected it to? Explain why this was the case and how you managed this. If everything went according to your timing plans, describe which activity took the longest time and explain why. [6]

Question 4   General

(a) There are a variety of different kinds of data that could be obtained during the course of a project. Describe two of these, and discuss what kinds of project they might be appropriate for. [6]

(b) What data did you obtain in order to conduct your project? How did you go about gathering the data for your project? If your project did not require any data, please explain why this was the case. [4]

(c) For up to four of the references that you used in your report, describe briefly what aspects of the reference were relevant to your project work. We are not looking for a summary of the references here, but rather for your understanding of the relevance to your project work, and how each reference influenced the direction your project took. [8]

(d) Assume that you have to specify a project for another student, using your project as a starting point. Describe the work that such a student might do, and identify some appropriate research questions and deliverables. [7]

END OF PAPER