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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

Semester I ☒ Semester II ☐ Supplemental/Summer School ☐Examinations of December ☒ /April/May ☐ /July ☐ 2018

Originating Campus: **Cave Hill** ☐ **Mona** ☒ **St. Augustine** ☐

Course Code and Title: **LIBS1401 – INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION RETRIEVAL
& ONLINE SEARCHING**

Date:

Time:

Duration: 2 Hours

Paper No:

Materials required:

Answer booklet: Normal ☐ Special ☐ Not required ☒

Calculator: Programmable ☐ **Non Programmable** ☐

(where applicable)

Multiple Choice answer sheets: numerical ☐ alphabetical ☐ 1-20 ☐ 1-100 ☐

Auxiliary/Other material(s) – Please specify:

Candidates are permitted to bring the following items to their desks:

Instructions to Candidates: This paper has 8 pages & 20 questions.

Candidates are reminded that the examiners shall take into account the proper use of the English Language in determining the mark for each response.

Answer ALL questions in the spaces provided.

This paper is worth 50% of the final mark.

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External Examiner (where applicable)

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Answer **ALL** questions in the spaces provided

1. Briefly explain the term *bibliographic databases*. [2 marks]

2. Elaborate on the importance of *the invisible web to researchers*. [2 marks]

In the context of information retrieval systems what would the darkest shaded area represent: [1 mark]

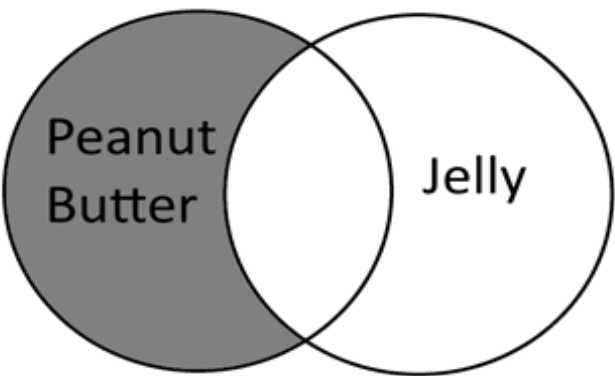


Fig.1

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3. In database design, what does the selected area represent? [1 mark]

User ID	Surname	Firstname	<<other fields>>
9003	Stewart	Jamie
9005	McLean	Shannon
9006	Pun	Estel
9007	Ennis	Timothy

Fig.2

4. Briefly explain **TWO (2)** *faulty assumptions* of information systems as it relates to *Dervin’s Sense-Making Process*. [2 marks]

5. Explain **ONE (1)** way in which the context of an academic information seeker in a Caribbean university differs from a person seeking leisure information about summer activities in their country. [2 marks]

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6. Comment on the concept *relevance ranking* as it relates to information retrieval systems. [2 marks]

7. Define the term *full-text availability* in academic databases. [1 mark]

8. A searcher typed the following term into the search box. Explain how the term below could retrieve irrelevant results. [2 marks]



Fig.3

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9. Give **ONE (1)** explanation an expert searcher is likely to exhibit different search behaviours from a novice searcher. [2 marks]

10. Discuss **TWO (2)** challenges of information retrieval systems in relation in the *big data* era. [4 marks]

11. Identify **TWO (2)** resource discovery software. [2 marks]

12. Justify the use of tagging in information retrieval systems. [2 marks].

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13. Comment on the concept of *hypertexts* in web documents. [2 mark]

14. Using the concept map below, develop a search strategy for finding information on “child abuse in third world countries” in an academic database. [6 marks]

Keyword		Alternative word
Keyword 1:	OR	
AND		
Keyword 2:	OR	
AND		
Keyword 3:	OR	

15. Distinguish between *citation searching* and *phrase searching*? [4 marks]

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16. State the difference between “**OR**” search and a “**NOT**” search. [4 marks]

17. Distinguish between recall techniques and *precision* techniques and give an example of **EACH**.
[4 marks]

[illegible]

18. Discuss the relationship between *controlled vocabulary* and *information retrieval*. [2 marks]

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19. Give two reasons general search engines like Google are unable to access information from the invisible web. [2 marks]

20. What is the purpose of the “tabs” in Google search (see figure 4 below)? [1 mark]

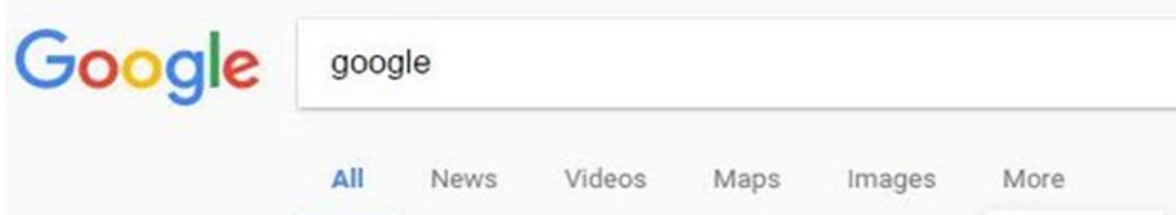


Fig. 4

END OF EXAMINATION

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