



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

EXAMINATION OF DECEMBER 2005

Code and Name of Course: *LS60B – INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIETY*

Paper:

Date and Time: *Monday, December 5, 2005: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.*

Duration: 3 hrs.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: This paper has 1 page(s) and 6 questions

ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION CARRIES EQUAL MARKS

1. It is said that advances in the development and application of ICT's are like a rising tide that will lift all countries in social and economic terms. Do you agree with this view of the impact of ICT's? Explain your answer.
2. What have been the main developments in the global information and communication economy since 1995 and how would you assess current levels of participation by developing countries in this economy?
3. Identify the dimensions of the digital divide and discuss how these are manifested EITHER at the national level in any country of your choice OR among countries at the global level.
4. Explain how the main technological developments that define the information technology revolution distinguish the 'information age' from other 'ages' in the relationship between information, communication and society.
5. Briefly explain each of the following:
 - a. Informational society
 - b. 'Technology Achievement Index' and 'Networked Readiness Index
 - c. The General Agreement on Trade in Services
 - d. The threat to intellectual property rights in the information age
6. Discuss the main policy issues that Caribbean countries must address in their Information and Communication Technology policy if they are to maximize the benefits of ICT's and participate meaningfully in the global information and communications economy.

END OF PAPER

DO NOT WRITE OR TYPE ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET: USE ONE SIDE ONLY

INSTRUCTIONS: Each page must be signed by the First and Second Examiners, and where applicable the University and External Examiners. Completed forms should be handed to the Assistant Registrar (Examinations). Where applicable, the EXTERNAL EXAMINER is requested to sign the question paper and return it with comments, if any, (on a separate sheet), to the Assistant Registrar (Examinations).

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First Examiner

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Second Examiner

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University Examiner (where applicable)

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External Examiner (where applicable)