



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING/BACHELOR OF
COMPUTER SCIENCE/BACHELOR OF APPLIED COMPUTER
SCIENCE/BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**FIRST SEMESTER, 2023/2024
(AUGUST-DECEMBER, 2023)**

**ACMP 410/BIT 430/COMP 420/SOEN 412: PROFESSIONAL
PRACTICES AND ETHICS**

STREAM: Y4 S1

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY: WEDNESDAY, 12.00 -2:00 PM

DATE: 22/11/2023

INSTRUCTIONS

Do not write anything on this question paper.

Switch off your mobile phones

Answer Question ONE [Compulsory] and any other TWO Questions

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY)

- a. Discuss four characteristics that distinguish a professional body from other social organizations. **(8 marks)**
- b. Differentiate Moral and Ethics. **(4marks)**
- c. Briefly describe the characteristics of a fully developed profession. **(4marks)**
- d. What features of intellectual property make it more difficult to protect than physical property? Explain. **(4marks)**
- e. Before offering a job candidate position, some potential employers do a criminal background check on the candidate. What are the pros and cons of this policy? **(6marks)**
- f. What are the relative advantages and disadvantages of patents versus trade secrets? **(4marks)**

QUESTION TWO (20MARKS)

SCENARIO

You are a Kindergarten teacher who works in a neighborhood school. You meet with a family who is enrolling their child in your class. You learn that the family has had a team meeting in the spring with your principal, and special education team. The mother, Mai, tells you that her son, Nanda, has an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis. You go to your principal for support and she tells you that based on the assessment at the time of the team meeting, she and other staff are working to have Nanda placed in a special program for children/students with ASD. Her recommendation is not to take up too much time adapting your class because Nanda will likely change schools before the end of the year.

- (a) In what ways are the ethical standards being violated? **(5marks)**
- (b) As a professional what is your ethical responsibility? **(5marks)**
- (c) As a professional, discuss how you can address the ethical dilemma with the principal. **(10marks)**

QUESTION THREE (20MARKS)

- (a) Assume you are a member of a newly formed professional association for tax consultants. You have been requested to draft a code of ethics for the association. Describe six types of professional misconduct that may arise when dealing with clients. **(12 marks)**
- (b) Explain the following statement “A tax practitioner must be seen to be independent of mind and appearance”. **(8marks)**

QUESTION FOUR (20MARKS)

- (a) If teachers perform competently in the classroom, should they also be required in the moral examples of their private lives? Explain. **(4marks)**
- (b) You as an attorney are instructed to transfer plot 109. The seller signs the transfer documents and leaves South Africa on business. You later see that the documents he signed are referring to plot 190. In terms of the Registrar’s circular, any rectification of a plot number must be fully initiated. Your client will only be back in 3 weeks. The delay will cost him a lot. Will you initial on his behalf and save him thousands of rand? Discuss the way you will deal with the matter referring to three ethical approaches. **(10marks)**
- (c) Distinguish values from ethics and culture. **(6marks)**

QUESTION FIVE (20MARKS)

- a. In an attempt to decongest the prisons in Kenya, the Judiciary Service Commission (JSC) has come up with an ambitious plan of leveraging AI to decide on which prisoners can be released, how long given offenders are to be jailed, and which offenders are to give parole, and which ones are to be given community service as punishment. They intend to use personal and public data including posts on social media profiles – texts, images, videos etc, ID, residence address, job and profession details, annual salary, KRA profile, and financial information such as MPESA and Bank transaction statements. The JSC intends to have this solution operational in under 6 months.

In reference to the case study presented, answer the following questions,

- i. Should the system be developed? Why? **3marks**
- ii. Do you think there are ethical concerns in this system being proposed? Which ones? **6marks**
- iii. How can the system be twerked to solve the problem without ethical concerns? **6marks**

- b. As a professional in computing, you have been contacted by an upcoming organization to advise and help them on establishing a non-disclosure agreement. Describe the considerations you will take on this case. **10marks**