

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN RECORDS AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT

PART I SECOND SEMESTER MAY 2008 EXAMINATIONS

ILI 1203 INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS

TIME: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. ANSWER ANY **FOUR** QUESTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING
2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES **25 MARKS**

1. Discuss how the Internet has aided or not aided the information retrieval systems environment. **[25 marks]**
2. Show how the following terms are used in the Information Retrieval Systems environment:
 - a) Pre-coordinate indexing systems
 - b) Post-Coordinate indexing systems
 - c) Database vendor
 - d) Search engines
 - e) Boolean logic
 - f) Truncation**[25 marks]**
3. From the list of information tools provided below, choose one and write a critique of this tool, showing how this tool can be best improved:
 - a) Catalogues
 - b) Abstracts
 - c) Bibliographies
 - d) Printed Indexes
 - e) Lists of Subject Headings
 - f) Classification Schemes
 - g) Thesauri**[25 marks]**
4. Discuss the attributes of the pre-search interview and their effect on search results in an electronic environment. **[25 marks]**
5.
 - a) Using illustrations discuss the concept of information retrieval systems. **[10 marks]**
 - b) Show and analyse the basic components of an information retrieval system. **[15 marks]****[Total 25 marks]**
6. Discuss the criteria that can be used to evaluate information retrieval systems. **[25 marks]**

END OF PAPER