



Kasarani Campus
Off Thika Road
P. O. Box 49274, 00101
NAIROBI
Westlands Campus
Pamstech House
Woodvale Grove
Tel. 4442212
Fax: 4444175

KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS, 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR
FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION
FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

KLC 2107 - INFORMATION LITERACY

DATE: 10TH DECEMBER, 2024

TIME: 8:30AM-10:30AM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE: COMPULSORY (30 MARKS)

Effective Use of the Academic Library Resources at University

At KWUST, the academic library serves as a core resource for students, providing them with the tools to conduct research and complete assignments effectively. A key feature is the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), a digital platform that allows students to locate information materials such as books, journals, and other resources efficiently. For instance, Sarah, a final-year student, recently used OPAC to locate specific research journals relevant to her thesis. With its help, she could quickly determine the availability and location of the resources, saving valuable time. As more students engage in research, the demand for information literacy skills has grown. These skills empower students to evaluate the reliability of both print and internet sources, distinguish between primary and secondary sources, and use information ethically.

In preparing for assignments, students frequently consult various materials, including primary sources like research articles, historical documents, and statistical data. Mr. Otieno, a lecturer at KWUST, recently emphasized to his students the value of primary sources in developing well-founded arguments and enhancing the credibility of their work. He also stressed the importance of acknowledging all sources used, which not only maintains academic integrity but also respects the intellectual contributions of others. This practice aligns with the library's guidelines on preventing plagiarism, which encourage students to cite accurately, paraphrase effectively, and use citation management tools to organize references.

The library itself is organized into various sections, each designed to support students' academic needs. Upon entering, students find the circulation desk, where they can check out and return materials. Other areas include the reference section, which contains materials that can only be used within the library; the study rooms, where students can work individually or in groups; and the electronic resources section, which offers access to digital materials. The library staff is available to assist students in locating resources and learning how to use tools like OPAC. For Sarah, who recently borrowed a book for her thesis, the process was straightforward: after locating the book using OPAC, she approached the circulation desk, presented her student ID, and completed the borrowing procedure. This case demonstrates how academic libraries like 's are pivotal in supporting students' research needs, enhancing their information literacy, and ensuring adherence to academic integrity.

- Sarah uses the Library Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) to locate materials for her thesis. Using examples from her experience, suggest four reasons why OPAC is essential for information retrieval in an academic library. **(3 Marks)**
- Reflecting on Mr. Otieno's emphasis on research skills in the case study, discuss four factors that highlight the growing importance of information literacy among students in academic libraries. **(3 Marks)**

- c) To evaluate sources effectively for academic work, students need to assess credibility. Identify three criteria that Sarah might use to determine the credibility of the information she finds in both print and online sources. **(5 Marks)**
- d) Suppose you have been nominated to present at a conference like Mr. Otieno. Based on library guidelines discussed in the case, suggest three ways you can ensure your work is free from plagiarism. **(3 Marks)**
- e) In preparing for their assignment, students in Mr. Otieno's class are encouraged to use primary sources. Describe three examples of primary sources that they could use in their research. **(3 Marks)**
- f) As highlighted by Mr. Otieno, acknowledging sources is a key academic practice. Explain three reasons why it is important to credit sources when writing a term paper. **(5 Marks)**
- g) Based on the library structure described, identify and explain the function of four major sections within an academic library. **(4 Marks)**
- h) Using the case of Sarah's borrowing experience, outline the basic procedure for borrowing a book from the library. **(4 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO: (20 MARKS)

library has appointed you as a knowledge ambassador to spearhead an information literacy program in your department. You are to give a presentation on information literacy. Discuss;

- a) Any three capabilities of an information literate person. **(6 Marks).**
- b) Any two differences between information literacy and digital literacy. **(4 Marks)**
- c) Any three-information programmes in academic libraries. **(6 Marks)**
- d) Outline four importances of information literacy. **(4 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE: (20 MARKS)

- a) What are the purposes of a library classification system in the library? **(6 Marks)**
- b) Good search techniques are at the core of good research. Discuss two search techniques to help a student get quality information when performing searches online **[4 Marks]**
- c) As a recent graduate of information literacy explain relevance of copyright laws in information use **[4 Marks]**
- d) Elaborate any three categories of information sources. **(6 Marks)**

QUESTION FOUR: (20 MARKS)

After you have completed writing an assignment in information literacy, you are supposed to write the sources of information you have used. Using APA reference style write the following citation.

- a) The Information Literacy User's Guide. Deborah Bernard, University of Albany. Copyright Year: 2014.ISBN 13: 9780989722629Publisher: Open sun. **(6 Marks)**
- b) International journal of library science and information literacy in college libraries: a bird's eye view. Infoumesh Kumar. Vijayarajkumar² & Muralidhara. K. research (ijlsr). Retrieved on 3rd November 2024, ISSN(p): 2250-2351; ISSN(e): 2321-0079 vol. 3, issue 5, dec 2013, 1-6 © tjprc pvt. ltd. **(6 Marks)**
- c) Giving relevant examples highlight three secondary sources of information. **(6 Marks)**
- d) What does the term library orientation mean? **(2 Marks)**

QUESTION FIVE: (20 MARKS)

- a) As library client of library Identify any three reference sources found in the library **(6 Marks)**
- b) Highlight any three sources of electronic resources found in academic libraries and give advantage of each resource **(6 Marks)**
- c) Explain the benefits of use of information communication technology (ICT) in the library **(6 Marks)**
- d) Identify any two electronic databases applicable to your academic work in library. **(2 Marks)**