

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**FIRST SEMESTER 2025/2026 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**COMP 316: ADVANCED DATABASE SYSTEMS**

***STREAM: R***

***TIME: 2 HRS***

***DAY: WEDNESDAY [8.30 – 10.30 A.M***

***DATE: 28/01/2026***

**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF SIX (6) PAGES**

**PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.**

**INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and ANY other TWO Questions in Section B**

**SECTION A**

**QUESTION ONE: [30 MARKS] – COMPULSORY**

- (a) Express your understanding of the following terminologies;
- (i) Structured query language (SQL) [1 Mark]
  - (ii) Data manipulation language (DML) [1 Mark]
  - (iii) Data definition language (DDL) [1 Mark]
- (b) (i) Express your understanding of the term DBMS? [2 Marks]
- (ii) Describe the **FIVE** components of the DBMS environment and discuss how they relate to each other. [5 Marks]
- (c) Explain any **FIVE** typical functions and services a DBMS should provide. [5 Marks]
- (d) What **FOUR** main types of actions involve databases? Briefly discuss each. [4 Marks]
- (e) Explain what a transaction is in the context of a database. [2 Marks]
- (f) Why should database systems maintain integrity constraints? [3 Marks]
- (g) Write an SQL statement that can be used to copy an entire table into another. [3 Marks]
- (h) What is the main difference between the DML command DELETE and the DDL command DROP? [1 Mark]
- (i) Write an SQL statement that will identify all employees who are due for retirement in the year 2017 and copy their details into a new table called **dueForRetirement**. Assume that their details are currently stored in a table called **empDetails**, the retirement age is 60 years and the employee date of Birth is stored in the format **dd/mm/yy**. [2 Marks]

**QUESTION TWO [20 MARKS]**

- (a) Explain the purpose and scope of database Security. [2 Marks]
- (b) Outline the main types of threat that could affect a database system, and for each describe the controls that you would use to counteract each of them. [5 Marks]
- (c) Explain the following in terms of providing security for a database:
- (i) Authorization [1 Mark]
  - (ii) Access controls [1 Mark]
  - (iii) Backup and recovery; [1 Mark]

- (iv) Views [1 Mark]
- (v) Encryption; [1 Mark]
- (vi) RAID technology. [1 Mark]
- (vii) Integrity; [1 Mark]
- (d) Distinguish between *Discretionary* and *Mandatory security mechanisms*. [4 Marks]
- (e) What is an SQL injection attack and how is it executed? [2 Marks]

### **QUESTION THREE [20 MARKS]**

Consider the following tables that store an Employee Tracking Database where an organization mandates that each employee complete a specified number of hours of training each year. The employee's attendance at training session is also to be kept. There are various training sessions.

#### **EMPLOYEE TABLE**

| STAFFNO | NAME       | DEPARTMENT  | HIRE DATE  | TRAINING |
|---------|------------|-------------|------------|----------|
| 1234    | J. JONES   | SALES       | 18/6/1992  | 24       |
| 2345    | S. KORIR   | PRODUCTION  | 12/2/1998  | 40       |
| 3456    | A. MWANGI  | SALES       | 18/11/1998 | 60       |
| 4567    | B. BETTY   | ADVERTISING | 10/3/1985  | 16       |
| 6789    | C. WANJIRU | SHIPPING    | 18/5/1991  | 32       |
| 7890    | E. OMOLO   | SALES       | 15/12/1998 | 80       |
| 8901    | F. NGUGI   | ADVERTISING | 17/10/1990 | 24       |
| 9012    | G. GATHONI | ADVERTISING | 15/3/1999  | 48       |
| 5678    | D. DAVIS   | PRODUCTION  | 26/7/1999  | 56       |

**TRAINING TABLE**

| STAFFNO | SESSIONID   | HOURS |
|---------|-------------|-------|
| 2345    | PERSMGT     | 12    |
| 3456    | COMPSKILLS1 | 8     |
| 3456    | COMPSKILLS2 | 24    |
| 3456    | PERSELL1    | 24    |
| 4567    | COMPSKILLS1 | 8     |
| 5678    | PERSMGT     | 12    |
| 5678    | PROJMGT1    | 12    |
| 7890    | PERSMGT     | 12    |
| 7890    | PERSELL     | 24    |
| 8901    | PERSMGT     | 12    |
| 9012    | PROJMGT     | 16    |

(a) Provide SQL statements to create structures for the two tables to store required data.

**[@1.5 MARKS= [3 MARKS]**

(b) Give SQL statements to insert the given data into the EMPLOYEE table. **[3 MARKS]**

(c) Write a query that will be used to retrieve a listing of SESSIONID and HOURS for all the training sessions for employee B.BETTY. **[3 MARKS]**

(d) Write a query that will retrieve a listing of employees who attended PERSMGT along with the number attended. **[4 MARKS]**

(e) Write a query that will retrieve employees who did not attend COMPSKILLS2 and PROJMGT1 **[4 MARKS]**

(f) From your knowledge of the referential integrity rule, what would happen to the database if employee 4567 left employment? **[3 MARKS]**

**QUESTION FOUR [20 MARKS]**

(a) The objective of the three-level architecture is to separate each user's view of the database from the way the database is physically represented. Give **FIVE** reasons why this separation is desirable.

[5 Marks]

(b) Distinguish between *Unary* operation and *Binary* operations as it pertains to relational algebra.

[2 Marks]

(c) Study the relational schema below then answer the questions that follow.

**STUDENT**

| <u>RegNo</u> | FName   | LName   | Hostel    |
|--------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| S13/28101/16 | Samuel  | Kamau   | Hollywood |
| S18/26933/16 | Jane    | Gwako   | Tatton    |
| S13/27508/16 | Stephen | Kimwaro | Hollywood |
| S18/22458/16 | Peter   | Wito    | Maringo   |

**TAKES**

| <u>RegNo</u> | CourseCode |
|--------------|------------|
| S13/28101/16 | AICM 713   |
| S18/26933/16 | COMP 391   |
| S13/27508/16 | COMP 391   |
| S18/2458/16  | MATH 342   |

**ENROL**

| <u>RegNo</u> | Programme |
|--------------|-----------|
| S18/26933/16 | 101       |
| S13/28101/16 | 113       |
| S13/27508/16 | 101       |
| S18/22458/16 | 101       |

**COURSE**

| <u>NUM</u> | NAME                           | DEPARTMENT |
|------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| AICM 713   | Database Design and Management | Computer   |
| COMP 391   | Research Methods               | Computer   |
| COMP 401   | Database Systems               | Computer   |
| MATH 342   | Quality Control Methods        | Math       |

**PROGRAMME**

| <b><u>NUM</u></b> | <b>NAME</b> | <b>DEPARTMENT</b> |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 113               | GDip        | Computer          |
| 101               | PhD         | Computer          |

Write relational algebra expressions to do the following;

- (i) Choose STUDENT tuples where Hostel is 'Hollywood'? **[2 Marks]**
- (ii) Find the first and last names of all students in the institution. **[2 Marks]**
- (iii) List the first and last names of all students who live in Hollywood. **[3 Marks]**
- (iv) Show IDs of students doing both courses AICM 713 and COMP 391. **[3 Marks]**
- (v) Finds the student IDs who are not taking any subjects. **[3 Marks]**

**QUESTION FIVE [20 MARKS]**

For each of the following, draw an ER diagram showing entities, attributes, relationships, cardinality, and participation. Where necessary state any assumptions.

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- (a) Customers identified by a name and with an address purchase ~~items~~ items. Items are identified by a number and have a ~~colour~~ colour. The quantity bought of each item is recorded. **[5 Marks]**
- (b) Departments are identified by an ID and have a budget. Within each department there are several projects. Projects have a name and a start date. **[5 Marks]**
- (c) An order with a unique number and date can be made for any quantity of parts, each with an item identifier and ~~colour~~ colour. Each order is made by one supplier with a name and address. **[5 Marks]**
- (d) A worksite at a particular address has several named workers with payroll numbers and tasks. Building materials of certain types and quantities are delivered by named trucking companies on a date to a supervisor at the worksite; there are several manufacturers of each kind of material, each with their own business name and address. **[5 Marks]**