



# TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA

## INSTITUTE OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS

### DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR:

#### BACHELOR OF BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### YEAR 2 SEMESTER 1

#### EIT 4109: OPERATING SYSTEMS

#### SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

#### **SERIES: SEPTEMBER 2018**

**TIME: 2HOURS**

**DATE: Sep2018**

#### **Instructions to Candidates**

You should have the following for this examination

-Answer Booklet, examination pass and student ID

This paper consists of **FIVE** questions. Attempt question ONE (Compulsory) and any other TWO questions.

**Do not write on the question paper.**

#### **QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) Describe three components of an Operating System that enable it provide a platform for communication between the user and hardware.(6 Marks)
- b) Define the following terms (3 Marks)
  - i. Process
  - ii. Interrupt
  - iii. Kernel
- c) Describe three components of a process control block (PCB).(3 Marks)
- d) Describe three Kernel-mode components of windows. (3 Marks)
- e) Briefly discuss the following terms (6 Marks)
  - i. Semaphore
  - ii. Condition variable
  - iii. Spinlocks
- f) Describe TWO operations that can be performed on a semaphore(4 Marks)

g) Discuss how process control systems can be characterized (5 Marks)

**QUESTION Two (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss the following terms in context of operating systems (6 marks)
- i. Paging
  - ii. Overlay
  - iii. Swapping
- b) Discuss Context Switching as used in operating systems (4 Marks)
- c) There various situations by which a context switch needs to occur. Explain any three ways (4 Marks)
- d) Discuss the three memory placement algorithms used in Dynamic Partitioning. (6 marks)

**QUESTION Three (20 MARKS)**

- a) Identify and explain four tables maintained by the operating system for a process in execution (8 Marks)
- b) Discuss two file access strategies used by the operating system (4 Marks)
- c) Different strategies are used to allocate space to processes competing for memory. Discuss the three of most popular strategies (8 Marks)

**QUESTION Four (20 MARKS)**

- a) Describe the functions of the OS with respect to: (12 Marks)
- i. Memory management
  - ii. Device management
  - iii. Processor management
- b) Explain the four main strategies for handling deadlocks (8 marks)

**QUESTION Five (20 Marks)**

- a) Explain the four main characteristics of an operating system strategy. (8 Marks)
- b) Outline the steps used in facilitating Remote Procedure Calls (RPC) between a server and a client. (10 Marks)
- c) Differentiate a Monolithic kernel and Microkernel (2 Marks)

