



JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF LOGISTICS
AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT FOR 1ST YEAR 2ND SEMESTER
MAIN CAMPUS

COURSE CODE: MLS 5121

COURSE TITLE: DISTRIBUTION CENTRE DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT

EXAM VENUE: LAB 7

STREAM: (MLS)

DATE: 19/12/17

EXAM SESSION: 9.00 – 12.00NOON

TIME: 3 HOURS

Instructions:

- 1. Answer ANY FOUR Questions**
- 2. Candidates are advised not to write on the question paper.**
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination**

QUESTION ONE

- a. Highlight major components of an effective distribution cycle. (5MKS)
- b. Planning and locating distribution centers requires vast resources. Explain the resource requirements for implementing successful distribution centre strategies. (5MKS)
- c. Explain the concept of push and pull systems in a distribution network and how they impact on distribution decisions. (5MKS)

QUESTION TWO

Transportation is often described as the weakest link in a distribution system. Explain ways logistics managers can align transport services to eliminate the perceived weaknesses. (15MKS)

QUESTION THREE

- a. Outline five strategic advantages warehouses can add to a distribution system. (10 MKS)
- b. Modern warehouse simulation software packages are critical in enhancing distribution goals in logistics systems. Explain key areas that such software could improve in distribution networks. (5 MKS)

QUESTION FOUR

- a. Explain how information systems and flows can be used to manage the complexity of distribution processes. (10MKS)
- b. Describe ways of aligning distribution centre strategies to deal with ever changing product ranges for long term competitive advantage. (5MKS)

QUESTION FIVE

- a. Outline factors that influence the successful layout of a warehouse. (5 MKS)
- b. Logistics managers often describe distribution management as a balancing act. Explain guiding principles in distribution system design. (10MKS)

QUESTION SIX

- (a) Managing a logistics distribution system encounters several challenges. Explain this statement basing on real examples (5 marks)
- (b) Material handling equipments are essential in handling a distribution centre system. Discuss (5 marks)
- (c) It's argued that technology plays an essential role in the day to day management of the distribution system. Discuss (5 marks)