**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA**
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**
**INFORMATION STUDIES UNIT**
**BA HONOURS IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES**
**FINAL EXAMINATION – (2025/2026)**
**LEVEL 04 (SEMESTER II)**
**HSU4603: INTERMEDIATE LIBRARY CLASSIFICATION.**

**DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS ONLY**

**Date: 09.05.2026** **Time: 1.30p.m-04.30p.m**

**Instructions**

- **Answer only five (05) questions**
- **All questions carry equal marks.**

1. Explain the concept of International Library Classification Systems.
   In your answer, discuss:
   i. What is an international classification system? Give an authorized definition — 4 marks
   ii. Why are such systems important globally? Explain three (3) importances, giving reasons — 6 marks
   iii. What are the benefits of standardization in information organization? Discuss briefly five (5) benefits. — 10 marks

2. Write a description on Universal Decimal Classification (UDC) system, discussing its background, main structure, features of notation, and its advantages and limitations. — 20 marks

3. i. Explain the Colon Classification (CC) with special reference to facet analysis and the PMEST principles. — 10 marks

   ii. Discuss the three (3) advantages and two (2) limitations of Colon Classification system — 10 marks

4. i. What are the National Library Classification Systems, Explain. — 05 marks

   ii. Describe the structure, features, and advantages of any two of the following classification systems: — 15 marks
   - Nippon Decimal Classification (NDC)
   - Chinese Library Classification (CLC)
   - Korean Decimal Classification (KDC)

5. Discuss the five (5) importances of special classification systems used in institutional libraries. (Illustrate your answer with examples from any two (2) of NLM, BCM, Moys, and Iconclass classification systems.) — 20 marks

6. i. Explain the differences between general classification systems and special classification systems. — 10 marks

   ii. Give two (2) examples of special classification systems and describe their respective subject domains. — 10 marks

7. Discuss the factors influencing the selection of a library classification system for the following libraries.

   - Academic library
   - Public library
   - School library
   - Special library

   — 20 marks

8. i. Explain the application of the colour code system in library classification in brief. — 5 marks

   ii. Write its three (3) advantages and two (2) limitations as a supportive tool for organizing library materials. — 5 marks

   iii. What is your idea about using a color code system in library classification? Is it useful? Explain five (5) reasons with examples. — 10 marks

9. Write short notes on any four (4) of the following:

   i. Library-Bibliographic Classification (LBC)
   ii. Melvil Dewey and his classification system.
   iii. DDC auxiliary tables
   iv. Tables of Library Classification System
   v. Colon Classification System
   vi. UDC main tables

   — 4x5 =20 marks