



FACULTY OF COMMERCE AND LAW

DEPARTMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

APRIL 2015: ASSIGNMENT 1 & 2: UNZA - 1

COURSE	QUESTIONS
Managerial Economics MBAZ505	<p>ASSIGNMENT 1</p> <p>Question 1</p> <p>(a) Anticipation of future demand is necessary to producers to arrange required factors of production to meet future demand. In light of this, discuss giving examples, the importance of demand forecasting to an organisation of your choice. (75)</p> <p>(b) Briefly explain the different methods of demand forecasting. (25)</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 2</p> <p>Question</p> <p>"In a changing climate, business that routinely incorporates climate change impacts and adaptation into their decision making will be better prepared and resilient than their competitors". With specific reference to an organisation of your choice, discuss how climate change affects its decision making process. (100)</p>
Management Information Systems MBAZ507	<p>ASSIGNMENT 1</p> <p>Question 1 - (Use New MIS Module)</p> <p>Read the following case study and answer questions that follow:</p> <p>Employees often receive a great deal of unstructured information in the form of e-mails. For example; employees may receive policies, announcements, and daily operational information via e-mail. However e-mail systems typically make poor enterprise wide knowledge management systems. New employees don't have access to e-mails predating their start date. Employees typically aren't permitted to search others e-mail files for needed information. Organisations lose productivity when each employee spends time reviewing and organising his or her e-mail files. Lastly the same information may find itself saved across thousands of</p>

different e-mail files, thereby ballooning e-mail file storage space requirements.

Microsoft's Exchange server, IBM's Domain server and interwoven worksite, along with a wide variety of open standard web-based products, aim to address an organisation's need to share unstructured information. These products provide common repositories for various categories of information. For example management may use a policy folder in Microsoft exchange to store all their policy decisions. Likewise, sales representatives may use a competitive Intelligence database in IBM's Domino server to store information obtained during the sales process about competing products, prices, or marketplace rumours. Worksite users categorize and store all their electronic documents in a large, searchable, secured common repository. Organisation using these systems can secure them, manage them, and make them available to the appropriate personnel. Managers can also point a few specific employees requiring little technical experience to manage the content.

However, these systems cannot benefit an organisation if its employees fail to contribute their knowledge, if they fail to use the system to retrieve information, or if the system simply isn't available where and when needed. To help managers better understand how employees use these systems, knowledge management systems include usage statistics such as date/time documents access information.

Answer the following questions from the above case.

- (a) What steps might a manager take to encourage his or her employees to use the organisation's knowledge management systems? (15)
- (b) Should managers set minimum quotas for system usage for each employee? Why or why not? (15)
- (c) Aside from setting employee usage quotas, how might an organisation benefit from knowledge management system usage statistics? (20)

ASSIGNMENT 2

Question 1 - (Use new MIS Module)

Develop an argument why your organisation should drop a flat file system for a database management information system. (25)

Question 2

'An organisation cannot do without an internet.' Discuss this statement. (25)

<p>Applied Human Resource Management MBAZ514</p>	<p>ASSIGNMENT 1</p> <p>Question 1 Critically assess the view that HRM practices should be designed to fit with business strategies and objectives. (50)</p> <p>Question 2 What strategic resourcing (4Rs) decisions and actions can HRM implement in these scenarios? Prepare action plans for these two (2) scenarios</p> <p>(a) A large statutory corporation has an aging workforce with high rates of absenteeism and tardiness. Customers complain about house construction and repairs have increased. What strategies can HR implement? (25)</p> <p>(b) University graduates are finding difficulty gaining new employment because they lack work-based skills and competencies. How can firms contribute to reversing this phenomenon? (25)</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT 2</p> <p>Question 1 Most Zambian organisations have not yet accepted the relevance and importance of Health, Safety and Environment in the work place, particularly the indirect linkage to employee performance and ultimately competitiveness. Critically analyse this statement. (25)</p> <p>Question 2 As a human resources management consultant, you have been invited to a seminar to address a gathering of thirty (30) human resources professionals on how to develop an effective training and development programme for their organisations. State with reasons, those factors that would form the core of your power point presentation. (25)</p>
<p>Corporate Integrity MBAZ 518</p>	<p>ASSIGNMENT 1</p> <p>Question 1 Following the non performance of many companies in Zambia, what recommendations would you proffer as a strategy of ensuring survival under conditions of turbulence. (25)</p> <p>Question 2 Develop an argument for or against the concept of whistle blowing. (25)</p>

ASSIGNMENT 2

Question 1

Social issues or problems should be handled by other institutions such as the family, schools and colleges, hospitals, churches, urban councils or the government. In view of this dimension from some sectors develop an argument for or against corporate social responsibility. **(25)**

Question 2

Critically analyse the role of government in business in Zambia. **(25)**