

**SIMS 245: ORGANIZATION OF INFORMATION IN COLLECTIONS.** Buckland 2003.

**CLOSED BOOK, IN-CLASS TEST - APRIL, 2003**

One hour only. **Answer any THREE questions**, in any order. Ration your time. Try to give as complete an answer as you can within the limited time available. When applicable, use **real or imaginary examples** to illustrate your answers. In any answer, draw on any parts of the course that are relevant. Write legibly. Use clear English.

1. What is “facet analysis” and what is it useful for?
2. It has been suggested in class that the more important the attribute the difficult it is to express the values. What was meant? In what ways might this be true? Might it be true in some contexts but not others? Explain, comment, and give examples.
3. **Answer either 3A or 3B but not both:**
  - 3A The standard assumption is that one should design a thesaurus to be compatible with the vocabulary of the population to be served. But what if the population to be served doesn't have a single accepted vocabulary but two or three? Describe briefly such a situation (actual or imaginary) and explore one or more ways to deal with this situation. Does it matter how large the differences are? What if the population is changing?
  - 3B. How, procedurally, would you set about constructing a thesaurus for what this course covers? What challenges might you encounter?
4. How can the use of set theory illuminate the topic of the course? What limitations or difficulties (if any) do you see in the use set theory?
5. What is special, difficult, distinctive about back-of-book indexes.

**CLOSED BOOK, IN-CLASS MAKE-UP TEST - APRIL 28, 2003**

One hour only. **Answer any THREE questions**, in any order. Ration your time. Try to give as complete an answer as you can within the limited time available. When applicable, use **real or imaginary examples** to illustrate your answers. In any answer, draw on any parts of the course that are relevant. Write legibly. Use clear English.

1. When organizing information in collections, on what basis would one determine which attributes (fields) to use?
2. What are the differences between an alphabetical arrangement and a systematic arrangement? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each? Under what if any circumstances might you prefer to use an alphabetical arrangement? – and when a systematic arrangement?
3. Why do people assemble collections? What kinds of considerations would you include in a collecting policy? Give actual or imaginary examples.

4. “Dog bites man” and “Man bites dog” are not the same, but search engines ordinarily do not distinguish between them. How come? How could you? What would it take? If you were asked to design a method, what options could you offer? – and what would you say about their strengths and weaknesses?
  
5. What is the Dublin Core? What do you consider to be its strengths and weaknesses?