

UNIVERSITY OF OSLO

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Exam in INF5210 and INF9210

Day of exam: Home exam between November 26th – December 14th 2015

Exam hours: Start 26.11.2015 at 15.00, ends at 14.12.2015 at 15.00

This examination paper consists of 2 pages.

Permitted materials: Written, printed and digital information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This exam is divided into three specific questions. The relative weight given to each of them is specified. You should use the course literature explicitly. Make sure to refer to the literature as is done in academic publications (select a referencing format of your choice and be consistent). Your text should not be less than 3500, and must not exceed 5000 words (references are not counted). You can write in English or Norwegian.

Do not include your name, only the candidate number that you will find in StudWeb.

Hand in your exam at: <http://devilry.ifi.uio.no> (no paper copy is required).

Plagiarism and written assignments:

The University of Oslo has a strict policy on plagiarism, as it is a breach of the trust to the institution. Plagiarism affects and reflects upon the University, fellow students and your future employers, and will have serious consequences for the individual student. Plagiarism in the context of a written home exam concerns the cases where the assignment is wholly or partly written by another person for the student turning in the paper. An assignment giving direct quotations and/or rewritings of published or unpublished material without giving proper referencing is also considered plagiarism.

EXAM ASSIGNMENT:

Question 1 (40%):

- a) Define the key concepts of Assemblage Theory. (10%)

Read *Ole Hanseth & Eric Monteiro. Inscribing behavior in information infrastructure standards, Accounting, Management & Information Technology.*

Available at: <http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/matnat/ifi/INF5210/h15/pensumliste/1-s2.0-s0959802297000088-main.pdf>

- b) Describe the most important “unintended” inscriptions presented in this article and their emergence by using the key concepts of Assemblage Theory. (15%)

Read *Ole Hanseth and Kristin Braa. Hunting for the treasure at the end of the rainbow. Standardizing corporate IT infrastructure.*

Available at: <http://heim.ifi.uio.no/~oleha/Publications/rainbow.pdf>

- c) Describe the evolution of the Hydro Bridge infrastructure as a combination of, and interaction between, stabilizing and de-stabilizing processes (15%).

Question 2 (30%):

- a) Based on the different ways the concept of generativity is used, and its different meanings, in the literature used in the course (examples include generative technology, generative capacity, generative relationships, generative architecture, generative fit, generative mechanism, etc.), propose a coherent and holistic definition of “generative information infrastructure “ (15%)
- b) Based on this definition, discuss the generativity of the Hydro Bridge infrastructure. (15%)

Question 3 (30%):

Read *Bendik Bygstad. The Coming of Lightweight IT.*

Available at: http://aisel.aisnet.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1021&context=ecis2015_cr

- a) Select one (relevant) case, i.e. an information infrastructure whose development and/or evolution of is presented in the course curriculum. Discuss how the development/evolution of this infrastructure could have been more successful if the “theory” of light and heavyweight technologies had been applied. (20%)
- b) Discuss if the proposed split of such information infrastructures into light and heavyweight technologies is consistent with your proposed definition of generative information infrastructures under Question 2a). (10%)