



MASENO UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

**THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY**

MAIN CAMPUS

MMA 307: METHODS I

Date: 7th December, 2016

Time: 8.30 - 11.30am

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO.

MASENO UNIVERSITY

ISO 9001:2008 CERTIFIED 

QUESTION ONE (Compulsory)

[30 Marks]

(a) Prove that

$$\int x f_0'(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} x^2 (f_0'' + f_1'') + c.$$

[5 Marks]

(b) Express $f(x) = x^3$ in terms of Legendre polynomials.

[5 Marks]

(c) Using the result that

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-ax} x^{n-1} \cos bx dx = \frac{\Gamma(n) \cos n\theta}{(a^2 + b^2)^{\frac{n}{2}}}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{b}{a},$$

evaluate:

(i) $\int_0^{\infty} \cos x^2 dx.$

[9 Marks]

(ii) $\int_0^{\infty} \cos \frac{\pi x^2}{2} dx.$

[5 Marks]

(d) Find the Laplace transform of:

(i) $\frac{1 - e^t}{t},$

[3 Marks]

(ii) $\frac{\cos 2t - \sin 3t}{t}.$

[3 Marks]

QUESTION TWO

[20 Marks]

Assuming a solution of the form:

$$y = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k (x-2)^k$$

and rewriting

$$1 - x = -[(x-2) + 1]$$

$$2x = 2(x-2) + 4,$$

solve giving the first four terms the equation:

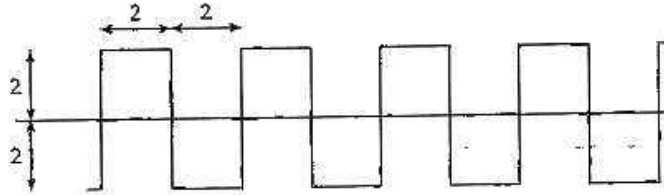
$$(1-x) \frac{df(x)}{dx} - f(x) = 2x$$

such that $f(2) = 1.$

QUESTION THREE

[20 Marks]

A periodic forcing function acts on a spring-mass system as shown:



Find:

- (a) A sine-series representation by considering the function to be odd. [10 Marks]
- (b) A cosine-series representation by considering the function to be even. [10 Marks]

QUESTION FOUR

[20 Marks]

Solve

$$t \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dt} + ty = \cos t$$

if $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$ using the Laplace transform method.

[20 Marks]

QUESTION FIVE

[20 Marks]

Solve the following equation by the method of separation of variables:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - 2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0.$$

[20 Marks]