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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

279 0113 ZB

BSc degrees and Diplomas for Graduates in Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences, the Diploma in Economics and Access Route for Students in the External Programme

The Ethics and Politics of Information Systems (half unit)

Wednesday, 31 May 2006 : 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Candidates should answer **THREE** of the following **FIVE** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

PLEASE TURN OVER

1. It is often argued that technology is neutral. Explain why you would agree or disagree with this position. Use an example of an everyday technology to illustrate your position.
2. Surveillance is an important part of securing society. Argue why you agree or disagree with such a statement. Support your answer by referring to the introduction of a biometric based national identification system.
3. 'All software should be free.' Argue why you would agree or disagree with this statement. Refer specifically to the open source movement in your answer.
4. What makes a problem a moral problem? Give an account of 'workplace privacy' as a moral problem.
5. 'Information technology is destroying work'. Argue why you agree or disagree with this statement by referring to the notions of 'automating' and 'informating' as developed by Zuboff.

END OF PAPER

