2026 Exam

ABERYSTWYTH BUSINESS SCHOOL

AB25120: OPERATIONS AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Time allowed : **2 HOURS**

Answer 2 questions: ONE from EACH SECTION

CALCULATORS ARE PERMITTED (Casio FX83 or FX85 models only)

MAE MODD I FYFYRWYR GYFLWYNO ATEBION I'R PAPUR HWN NAILL AI YN Y GYMRAEG NEU'R SAESNEG

STUDENTS MAY SUBMIT ANSWERS TO THIS PAPER IN EITHER WELSH OR ENGLISH

Once seated, students may complete the front cover of the answer book(s) and the attendance slip ONLY.

DO NOT TURN THE EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER OVER UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.

SECTION A

Question 1

a) Explain the difference between *innovation* and *invention*.
b) Why is continuous improvement so important in the current business environment?
c) What might be the barriers to innovation in an organisation?
d) Describe a significant example of continuous innovation.

Question 2

a) Explain what is meant by the term inventory, listing and describing the seven different types of inventory.
b) Why is inventory management so important to a modern firm? Explain this in terms of the benefits and costs of keeping inventory.
c) How does inventory interact with supply chain management and quality management?

SECTION B

Question 3

a Describe what is meant by *capacity management*.
b What are the three main aspects of capacity and what is the difference between *utilisation* and *efficiency*?
c How can capacity be managed in materials processing operations? .

Question 4

Thanks to its profound effects on the global economy, from almost everybody's point of view, containerisation could be considered to be the most significant innovation of the 20th century.

a) Explain what containerisation means and how it evolved.
b) What aspects of containerisation have made it so successful on a global scale?
c) What impacts has it had and why?
d) Describe the most recent innovations in container transport and handling

END OF PAPER