

NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA  
UNIVERSITY VILLAGE, PLOT 91 CADASTRAL ZONE  
NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI, ABUJA  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION

**FEB 2018 EXAM**

**COURSE CODE: JLS721**  
**COURSE TITLE: NEWS WRITING AND REPORTING**  
**UNIT: 3**

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS, ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

1. The press and journalism, which initially concerned with writing for journal, have assumed greater responsibility with ethical and legal dimensions.
  - (a) Discuss the function of the press as a societal institution
  - (b) Explain five (5) attributes of a good reporter
2. For an information to command a place in the newspaper it should not only be fresh and new; it should also be the sort of news that the readers of the paper will likely want to read.
  - (a) Explain the news determinants that inform the judgment of some events as being newsworthy.
  - (b) What are the common points of convergence in the conceptualisation of news?
3. News writing is not an exercise in self-presentation; it is usually based on adherence to a set of guidelines known as rudiments. Explain the rudiments of news story that journalists must take into consideration in the course of news writing.
4. Preparing broadcast copy entails making the copy easy for the newscaster to read and easy for the audience to understand.
  - (a) Describe the main body of a broadcast copy
  - (b) Explain the treatment of names and titles, pronunciation, abbreviations, symbols and numbers, quotation and attributions, and punctuations in broadcast copy writing.
5. As an important source of news, interview offers journalist the opportunity for news information and packaging of documentary.
  - (a) Identify and discuss the various types of interview
  - (b) Explain five (5) question techniques available to reporters conducting interview
6. The contemporary information technologies is changing the way journalists source and write news.
  - (a) Explain the imperatives of using computer in today's journalistic practice
  - (b) Discuss four (4) legal pitfalls that are common in the internet-based journalistic sphere.