



**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: JLS812
COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS
UNIT: 3**

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

1. “A lawless state is a state of anarchy”. Justify this quotation by relating the purpose of law in the society with media roles to uphold them. **(17¹/₂ Marks)**
2. **(a)** Nigerian mass media are exact replica of the kind of journalists the country breeds. Discuss the virtues expected of Nigerian journalists to ensure reformation in the media industry. **(10 Marks)**
(b) The peculiar nature of the mass media as vehicles for free expression makes absolute regulation of the industry an infringement on fundamental human right. Discuss at least three regulatory mechanisms of mass media in Nigeria. **(7¹/₂ Marks)**
3. Chapter 2, Section 22 of 1999 Nigerian constitution states that: “The Press, radio, television and other agencies of the mass media shall at all times be free to uphold the fundamental objectives contained in Chapter two and uphold the responsibility and accountability of the government to the people.” Discuss at least five ways through which the press can perform the constitution duty. **(17¹/₂ Marks)**
4. You are privilege to advise a journalist who has just been arraigned in a court of law for defamation of character while he was reporting for a newspaper in Nigeria. Suggest and explain to the journalist at least seven points that could be raised as defensive mechanisms against the charge in law court. **(17¹/₂ Marks)**
5. Objectivity is one of the canons of journalism practice which is needed to be considered while reporting issues to ensure laudable reports. Discuss at least five obstacles that are likely to jeopardise the application of objectivity while reporting. **(17¹/₂ Marks)**
6. Ethics of media practice suffer in the hand of Nigerian media practitioners on daily basis. Discuss at least five symptoms of ethical problems in Nigerian journalism. **(17¹/₂ Marks)**