



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION  
2023\_2 EXAMINATIONS—

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COURSE CODE: MAC 411

COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAWS AND ETHICS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER 4 QUESTIONS  
ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER THREE

TIME ALLOWED: 3HRS

UNIT: 3

1. Both Law and Ethics are concepts required for moderating and regulating people's behaviour in a society. How then does Law differ from Ethics? Discuss this in line with the roles and the functions of Law. (25 Marks)
2. Libel and Slander are both concepts subsumed under the Law of **Defamation**. Identify and discuss the Defences available to a journalist charged with the offence of Defamation? (15 Marks)
3. Seditious is a **Political Offence Criminalised**. Do you agree? To justify your answer,
  - (a.) identify what makes **Sedition** a serious offence
  - (b.) discuss the **defences** available to a journalist charged with Sedition.(15 Marks)
4. Identify and briefly discuss five **Unethical Behaviours** that a journalist must avoid as stated in the NUJ Code of Conduct. (15 Marks)
5. Write short notes on any three (3) of the following. Each carries 5 Marks.:
  - (i) Steiner and the Copyright Law
  - (ii) Article 19 and Article 45 of UNDHR Convention
  - (iii) John Stuart Mill's **principle of utility**
  - (iv) Contempt of court
  - (v) The Official Secrets Act (15 marks)