



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION  
2025\_1 EXAMINATION**

**COURSE CODE: JLS 712**

**COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS**

**CREDIT UNITS: 3**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS**

1a) What is ethics? **(7½ marks)**

1b) Mention and explain any five reasons why people should lead ethical lives. **(10 marks)**

2) An action should not depend on the result or consequences, those who agree with this thought belongs to deontological school. With relevant examples, enumerate and elucidate the variants of the deontological ethical theory. **(17½ marks)**

3a) To what extent do you consider the press to be free in Nigeria today. **(5½ marks)**

3b) Explain any three practical ways in which the media can perform their constitutional duty of monitoring and making the government accountable to the Nigerian people. **(12 marks)**

4) A newspaper editor has been sued for defamation for his comments in a newspaper publication. Highlight and give a detailed explanation of any four defences he can apply to his advantage. **(17½ marks)**

5a) A law-abiding journalist is expected to respect the courts in the course of his/her official duties. Describe any two means in which contempt of court can be committed by the Journalist. **(8 marks)**

5b) Discuss any three ethical challenges that can make a Nigerian journalist not to keep to his professional code of ethics. **(9½ marks)**