



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION
2023_1 POP EXAMINATION

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. "Life in a Lawless Society, where Man is his own master, was:
Solitary, Nasty, Brutish and Short" (Thomas Hobbes). Justify this assertion by:
 - (a.) Citing 2 definitions of Law (5 Marks)
 - (b.) Discussing the role/importance of Law in the society (10 Marks)
 - (c.) Discussing the functions of Laws (10 Marks) **(25 Marks)**
2. A young reporter in your Media organisation is under litigation for **defaming** the immediate past Governor of your state. Advise him on what to do to wriggle himself out of this problem. **(15 Marks)**
3. Libel is a case of civil tort against an individual whereas, Sedition is an offence against the State! Confirm or refute this assertion while discussing the following:
 - (a.) The peculiarities of each of these Law cases
 - (b.) What are the defences available to a pressman under litigation for Sedition?**(15 Marks)**
4. **Privacy** simply means the "Right to be let alone" How does this assertion interfere with the social responsibility role the journalist? Discuss this in light of **the Public and Private Figure** concepts.
5. Write short notes on any three (3) of the following:
 - (i) The Copyright Law
 - (ii) Obscene and Indecent Publications
 - (iii) The Newsman's Privilege
 - (iv) The Young Children's Harmful Publication Act
 - (v) The Official Secrets Act **(15 marks)**