



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14-16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

JUNE/JULY 2013 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: JLS 812

COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS

TIME ALLOWED: 3HRS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS

1. As a student of Media Law, a public figure seeks your advice on how to establish that an action against him/her is defamatory in a law court. Explain to him/her at list four points to prove that the action is truly defamatory in a law court. **(25 Marks)**
2. (a) In which ways do laws relate to ethics? **(10 Marks)**
(b) Why is it that only human beings are concerned with ethics? **(10Marks)**
(c) Establish the differences between Laws and Ethics. **(5 Marks)**
3. Your newspaper was indicted for publishing a defamatory news story concerning a celebrity in Nigeria. As the editor of the newspaper, defend the defamatory allegation with at least five of the justifications against defamation. **(25 Marks)**
4. (a) Discuss the peculiar characteristic of man-made laws. **(15 Marks)**
(b) Why do you think that law is essential in Nigeria? **(10 Marks)**
5. As an experienced reporter, who has spent over 12 year on the job, advice your colleagues, who are new on the job, on what constitute contempt of court and likely unprofessional fouls that lead to it. **(25 Marks)**

6. Discuss ethical and sub-ethical theories and discuss how each is related to journalism practice in Nigeria. **(25 Marks)**