



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14/16 AHMADU BELLO WAY VICTORIA ISLAND
LAGOS**

**OCTOBER 2013 EXAMINATIONS
School of Arts and Social Sciences**

COURSE CODE: JLS712

COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS

**INSTRUCTION: Answer any four questions.
All questions carry equal marks.**

TIME ALLOWED: 3 Hours

1. (a) Explain what you understand by the constitutional duty of the Nigerian media; in what specific ways can the media perform this duty?
(b) Why is presidential approval/special licensing required to establish broadcast media and not for print media?
2. (a) How can a democratic government regulate the country's media and also allow the freedom of the press at the same time?
(b) What purpose does the law of defamation serve in a society?
3. What is media law? Enumerate and explain the cardinal virtues according to Plato.
4. Give two definitions of Press Freedom. Explain the fight for freedom of the press in Nigeria from 1859 to the present day.
5. Write briefly on the following terms in relation to media publications:
 - Libel
 - Slander
 - Unintentional Defamation
 - Plagiarism
 - Piracy
 - Fair Comment
 - Absolute Privilege
 - Qualified Privilege
 - Res Judicata

- 6 a. Discuss the concept of 'Objectivity' in journalism. Explain four possible obstacles objectivity.
6. b. Is it possible to achieve objectivity in journalism? Justify your answer.