



FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA
SCHOOL OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND MEDIA TECHNOLOGY

FIRST SEMESTER 2017/2018 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: IMT432
COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS
CREDIT UNITS: 2
DATE OF EXAM 30th APRIL, 2018
TIME ALLOWED: 2 ½ HOURS
COURSE LECTURER(S): PROF. N. IWOKWAGH AND
K.S. AGBONIKA, ESQ.
NUMBER OF QUESTIONS: 4
NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer all questions
- Do not use red pen
- Please use a clear handwriting
- This exam is closed book, closed notes, closed laptop and closed cell phone
- Please use non-programmable calculatorsA only



QUESTION ONE

Study the letter below and answer the questions that follow.

22 Face-Me-I-Face-You Lodge,
Otutu-Poyoyo Avenue,
Gidan-Mangoro,
Minna.
1st February, 2018.

The Vice-Chancellor,
Federal University,
Lambata,
Nigeria.

Dear Sir,

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) REQUEST
APPLICATION FOR CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEATH OF A 300
LEVEL STUDENT, MISS PIZZA KILISHI AND THE CRISIS THAT ENSUED

1. Referring to the above subject matter, I write to request for the following:
 - i. A list of both academic and non-academic staff of late Kilishi's department and their ranks.
 - ii. Late Kilishi's 200 Level Examination Question Papers, Answer Scripts and Marking Guides.
 - iii. A copy of the departmental handbook issued to late Kilishi in 100 level.
 - iv. The file of late Kilishi at the school clinic.
 - v. Evidence of total amount received as restitution charge after the student crisis and how the money was expended.
 - vi. The identity of the student who named another student that slapped the Dean of Student Affairs during the crisis.
 - vii. Written permission to enter and inspect the student's hostel and the University clinic.
 - viii. Written permission to enter the University and interview students about the crisis.
 - ix. Written permission to question the University's Medical Director about the health of late Kilishi.
 - x. Information about the total amount of money received by the University as payment for SWEP and how it was expended.
2. I cannot disclose my reason for this application to you.
3. Please kindly forward the reply to this letter to my company, Wayo Nigeria Limited, because as an individual, I am not qualified to make this FOI request.
4. Note that if you do not reply this letter within three days, I will go to court.

Yours faithfully,
Fasasi.

- a) Comment on the content of the FOI request.



- b) The University failed to reply the applicant because some of the information requested are already on the University's website. After 2 months of not getting any reply, the applicant has gone to court. Advise the University.

QUESTION TWO

Study the conversation below and answer the questions that follow.

Chief Nwaebili: Alh. Kudu told me that he wishes to invest the huge profit from his last harvest in establishing a TV station in Minna. But his application for permit has been rejected.

Dr Anebi: Our new political party, The Money Making Movement is applying for permit too. We need a new radio station. I should help Alh. Kudu speak to the Minister for the permit.

Chief Nwaebili: Have you read Mr. Nwaolise's interview published in today's *People's Parrot*? He said that I am an indigene of Kogi and not Anambra state. He says as student President back at our undergraduate days, I embezzled union funds and was expelled from school as a result.

Dr Anebi: As a co-contestant in the Anambra Gubernatorial election, he should be discussing his vision for the state. I advise you go to court to teach Nwaolise the lesson of his life.

- Comment on any three legal issues raised by this conversation.
- Mention the essentials Chief Nwaebili must prove against Mr. Nwaolise in court.
- Mention any five defences which may be available to Mr. Nwaolise for his action.
- This interview has been posted severally by many members of this class on Facebook and Twitter. Comment on the liability for the posting on social media platforms.
- With your reasons and relevant constitutional provisions, mention any two fundamental human right important to Media Studies.

QUESTON THREE

Omeiza, a journalist with *Tatafo Newspapers* is investigating corruption in the ruling Going Green Party (GGP). One of his main sources is Lanre, a wealthy businessman and a staunch supporter of the opposition party – Money Making Party (MMP). Omeiza knows this but the documents and facts from Lanre are good. Lanre owns a restaurant, Chop-Chop Crib and Omeiza finds himself eating frequently at the restaurant. A couple of times, Lanre paid the bills for Omeiza in his his restaurant and Omeiza had accepted as he does not want to offend Lanre. One day Lanre told him, "I know you are our good friend. from now on, you always eat at Chop-Chop Crib for free. Bring your family too..."

- Should he accept? [Yes or No]
- What three problems may be there with his accepting this favour?
- List six ethical values
- In what five different ways does ethics differ from law



(e) What are the obstacles to objectivity in journalism

QUESTION FOUR

1. Your newspaper *Elsu News* is well supported and funded by the ruling national party, the Alfa Congress Party. Just before the 2017 general elections, there were many serious violence between the supporters of the ruling Alfa Congress Party and the main opposition party; the Omega Peoples Party. In one of those violence which you covered for your paper, an important Alfa Congress Party member and activist, Mr. Abah Junior and his family died in an arson attack at a ghetto. Your Editor calls you and tells you, *"This is about that irresponsible Omega Peoples Party. We need a story in the news that shows how violent and anti-democratic they are"*.

But when you began investigation, you realized that Mr. Abah was a thug known for brutalizing neighbors, asking them to settle him for protection and operating a drinking joint for gangsters. Most people you interviewed believe the attack on Mr. Abah could have even come from his own party members whom he had bullied and beaten. Knowing that this is not necessarily the story your paper wants, attempt the following.

- a) Comment on the scenario above.
- b) Mention the sources of Media Law and Ethics
- c) List six ethical values.
- d) Compare ethics and morality.