



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

FIRST SEMESTER 2015/2016 EXAMINATION

<b>COURSE CODE:</b>	MCT 412
<b>COURSE TITLE:</b>	MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS
<b>CREDIT UNITS:</b>	2
<b>TIME ALLOWED:</b>	2 HOURS
<b>COURSE LECTURER(S):</b>	PROFESSOR NICHOLAS IWOKWAGH & BARRISTER KASSIM AGBONIKA
<b>NUMBER OF QUESTIONS:</b>	4
<b>NUMBER OF PAGES:</b>	2

**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 calculators only

### SECTION A: ETHICS

1. 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...”

- (a) Should he accept? [Yes or No]
- (b) What three problems may be there with his accepting this favour?
- (c) List six ethical values
- (d) In what five different ways does ethics differ from law
- (e) What are the obstacles to objectivity in journalism
- (f) Compare ethics and morality

20 marks

2. Chris just interviewed the commander of a local separatist group banned by the federal government. The group enjoys popular support from the peasants who though are themselves not fighters but are thrilled by the idea of a promoted independent caliphate. Chris had assured the commander and the community chief of protection of identities and circumstances of the interview even before they helped him setup it up. The man told Chris he has killed, kidnapped and raped many a person. Chris doesn't like this view but he wants the public to hear of it. Not long, the state security service phoned Chris asking for the names of those who help setup the interview, where it took place and other details. They told him that it is not good to keep facts about terrorists from the security.

- a. Discuss the ethical issues involved
- b. Discuss any two of the canons of journalism

10 marks

### SECTION B: LAW

3. Mention 2 significance of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
  - b. Mention 2 limitations of the provisions of the FOIA
  - c. Differentiate between the following
    - i. The proactive and the responsive duty to disclose under the FOIA
    - ii. The FOIA and the Official Secret Act (OSA)
  - d. Give two examples of international legal instruments which agree with the FOIA
4.
  - a. With reference to relevant constitutional and statutory provisions, explain the issue of ownership of the media.
  - b. What is the significance of section 22 of the constitution to the mass media?
  - c. Why does broadcasting require government permit?

15 marks

15 marks