Summer Examinations 2015

JOU100115N

Module Title: Law and Ethics for Journalists
Level: Four
Time Allowed: Two hours

Instructions to students:
- Enter your student number not your name on all answer books.
- Answer three questions: Question 1 in Section A, one question from Section B and one question from Section C.
- Section A carries 10% of the overall marks. Section B carries 45% of the overall marks. Section C carries 45% of the overall marks.
- Begin each answer in a separate answer book; label each book clearly with the number of the question you are answering.
- The same material should not constitute a substantial part of more than one question.
- Neither books nor notes may be taken into the examination.

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Section A

Answer all parts of this section.

Question 1

Explain the meaning of the following legal and ethical terms used by journalists:

a. Barrister
b. Active Proceedings
c. Hearsay
d. Subterfuge
e. Off the record
f. Injunction
g. Code of Practice
h. Public interest
i. Either way offence
j. Magistrate

Section A Total: 10 marks
Section B

Answer one question from this section.

Question 2

‘The Human Rights Act presents a potential conflict between freedom of expression and an individual’s right to privacy.’

Discuss this statement and give examples from recent legal cases involving the media.

Question 3

In the past, newspapers and other media outlets often did not fight a charge of defamation in court when brought against them. Why is this and what aspects of the new Defamation Act (2013) might change this situation?

Question 4

How can journalists put themselves at risk of being charged with contempt of court?

Section B Total: 45 marks
Section C

Answer one question from this section.

Question 5

What impact does media ownership have on freedom of expression and journalistic activity in the UK? Give examples.

Question 6

Explain the positive and negative aspects of chequebook journalism.

Question 7

Explain why the recently established Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) was set up and how it differs from its predecessor the Press Complaints Commission.

Section C Total: 45 marks