Module Title       Law and International Media Regulation
Level              Six
Time Allowed       Two hours

Instructions to students:

- Enter your student number **not** your name on all answer books.
- Answer **all** questions in **Section A** and **all** from **Section B**.
- Answer **one** question in **Section C**.
- **Section A** is worth **20%** of the overall mark.
- **Section B** is worth **40%** of the overall mark.
- **Section C** is worth **40%** of the overall mark.
- Begin each question on a separate page in the answer book; label each page clearly with the number of the question you are answering.
- The same material should not constitute substantial part of more than one questions.
- Neither books nor notes may be taken into the examination.

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Section A

Answer all questions.

1. a. How does the BBC Editorial Guidelines define the public interest?  
   (5 marks)

b. In what circumstances can you name a victim of a sexual offence?  
   (5 marks)

c. When do proceedings become active under the Contempt of Court Act and what generic phrase describes the type of material you cannot publish?  
   (5 marks)

d. When does the watershed begin and end and what do broadcasters need to consider when broadcasting material outside the watershed?  
   (5 marks)

Total: 20 marks

End of Section A
Section B follows overleaf
Section B

Answer all questions.

2. On 18 April 2017 the Prime Minister Theresa May emerged from Downing Street to ask Parliament’s backing to hold a General Election. Explain how the law on reporting elections and the regulatory codes of both IPSO and Ofcom and the BBC Editorial Guidelines affect how journalists report elections. (10 marks)

3. The Sunday Times accused Essex businessman David Hunt of being an organised crime boss, responsible for murder, drug trafficking and assault. The key material the Sunday Times relied on were leaked documents from the police. Hunt sued the Sunday Times for libel.

   a. What is the legal definitions of defamation and libel?
   b. Explain what Hunt needed to prove to win his lawsuit?
   c. Explain which of the libel defences set out in the Defamation Act 2013 were the best ones for the Sunday Times to use and why. (10 marks)

4. During the Charlie Hebdo terrorist attack, engineer Jordi Mir filmed the gunmen shooting a police officer dead. Mir posted the video on Facebook. It was the only video of the gunmen that day. You wish to use at least part of the video in your news programme.

   a. Explain who owns the copyright of the video.
   b. Explain what steps you would take to deal with the copyright issue before using extracts of the video and why.
   c. What other regulatory factors would you want to consider? (10 marks)
5. You work on a website specialising in celebrity news. A freelance sends you a video of a well known celebrity out shopping with his three young children. The youngest child, a toddler, is throwing a tantrum. The two older children, who appear to be aged eight and ten start playfighting and pulling silly faces while their parent attempts to calm the toddler. Explain, with reference to the law and the regulatory codes of conduct, whether or how you would use the video.

(10 marks)

Total: 40 marks

End of Section B
Section C follows overleaf
Section C

Answer one question.

6. Analyse the significance of the judge’s ruling in the case of Sir Cliff Richard vs the BBC and South Yorkshire Police. Discuss the public interest, the issue of naming individuals before charge and the right to privacy.

(40 marks)

Or

7. Contempt of Court Act is outdated and should be abolished. Discuss with reference to freedom of speech, social media and international practice. Cite specific examples of contempt.

(40 marks)

Or

8. To what extent is there genuine freedom of the press? Discuss with reference to practice both in the UK and abroad and cite examples.

(40 marks)

Total: 40 marks