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(University of Choice)

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(MMUST)**

MAIN CAMPUS

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

**FOR THE DEGREE
OF**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

COURSE CODE: JMC 307

COURSE TITLE: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS

DATE: 13/04/2023

TIME: 3.00 pm-5.00 pm

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATE

Answer **Question 1** and any other **2** questions.

TIME: 2 Hours

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

This Paper Consists of 2 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over. ►

1. (a) Explain briefly what defamation is. (5 marks)
(b) Describe the two categories of defamatory statements. (5 marks)
(c) You have been accused of publishing a defamatory statement. The claimant has actually proved to the court of law that the statement was actually defamatory. Discuss any three avenues available to you for defense. (20 marks)

2. (a) Explain, citing relevant examples the following types of law: (20 marks)
 - (i) Criminal law
 - (ii) Civil law
 - (iii) Private law
 - (iv) Public law
(b) Why is it important for a student of journalism to study law? (10 marks)

3. (a) Explain what ethics means. (5 marks)
(b) Discuss some of the ethical issues that may arise in the course of your duty as a news reporter/writer/editor or as a journalist generally. (15 marks)

4. (a) What is 'Contempt of court'? (5 marks)
(b) Discuss any three ways in which a journalist may become liable for contempt. (15 marks)

5. When mainstream journalists and leading commentators discuss media ethics their views tend to fall within four main categories. Discuss these four categories. (20 marks)