

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

2011/2012 FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: MAIN

TITLE OF PAPER: MEDIA LAW

COURSE CODE: JMC 311

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **THREE** questions.

Question One is compulsory.

Spelling and grammar will count in grading.

Use your own examples to illustrate your answer(s).

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED
BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

Question 1 (Compulsory)

Discuss in detail any four cases in which the media was taken to court for defamation between 2000 and 2012. Explain whether the complainants were justified in their actions or not.

(20 Marks)

Question 2

Article 24 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Swaziland protects freedom of the press. Discuss whether or not this is the case in reality, giving examples to support your answer.

(20 Marks)

Question 3

a) Discuss in detail the form of media regulation that exists in Swaziland.

(5 Marks)

b) Write a critique on the body set up to regulate the media in Swaziland.

(15 Marks)

Question 4

Discuss in detail at least five media laws that existed in Swaziland prior to the introduction of the Constitution in January 2005.

(20 Marks)

Question 5

The Parliament Select Committee that was set up to probe the complaints about the Media Council Bill of 1997 made a number of recommendations to try and resolve the impasse between government and the media.

a) Explain these recommendations.

b) Indicate whether or not the recommendations have been implemented.

(20 Marks)

Question 6

Discuss the major role of certain institutions and individual members of society in stifling press freedom in the country. **(10 Marks)**

Suggest ways through which the press can rid itself of such threats.

(10 marks)