



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA
Faculty of Business & Social Studies

DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA & GRAPHIC DESIGN

DIPLOMA IN MASS COMMUNICATION
(DMP/R 2)

BMC 2110: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS

SUPPLEMENTARY/SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS

SERIES: FEBRUARY 2013

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

- This paper consists of **TWO** Sections **A** & **B**.
- Section **A** is **Compulsory**.
- Answer any other **TWO** questions in Section **B**.

This paper consists of Three printed pages.

SECTION A (Compulsory)

QUESTION 1

- a) Distinguish between criminal law and civil law. **(8 marks)**
- b) Explain any **FIVE** sources of the laws of Kenya giving examples. **(10 marks)**
- c) Differentiate a “strict liability” crime from an “inchoate” crime, giving examples. **(4 marks)**
- d) Outline some **EIGHT** questions to ponder when evaluating the state of Press Freedom in a country. **(8 marks)**

SECTION B (Answer any TWO questions)

QUESTION 2

- a) Illustrate the hierarchical structure of the Kenyan courts. **(6 marks)**
- b) Explain the specific functions of at least **FOUR** of the courts identified in 2 a) above. **(8 marks)**
- c) Giving typical examples, explain **THREE** circumstances in which a journalist can be cited for criminal contempt of court. **(6 marks)**

QUESTION 3

Kenya is already in an election mood and politicians are using every opportunity to attack their rivals.

- a) Suggest various pre-cautions that journalists need to take when reporting to avoid unnecessary law suits. **(6 marks)**
- b) Discuss the defences of defamation that journalists and their media houses could use if sued for quoting statements uttered in political campaigns. **(14 marks)**

QUESTION 4

Explain the following while giving relevant examples:

- a) Intrusion **(5 marks)**
- b) Private Facts Disclosure **(5 marks)**
- c) Appropriation **(5 marks)**
- d) False light **(5 marks)**

QUESTION 5

- a) Highlight the responsibilities of Free Media in the society. **(9 marks)**
- b) i) Describe the **FOUR** Right Versus Right Dilemma paradigms. **(8 marks)**
ii) Outline their resolution principles. **(3 marks)**