

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES**

**MEDIA LAW I: (IJM 1201)  
AUGUST 2004 SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION  
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Answer the **compulsory** question in Section A and **two** questions from Section B.
2. Quotations in all questions were created for the purposes of this exam and are not cited from anywhere.
3. Poor spelling and grammar will be penalised.

**SECTION A: COMPULSORY**

**Question 1**

“Although the Zimbabwean constitution does not explicitly provide for press freedom, in reality the press has more freedom than it can use responsibly.” Discuss this statement using specific examples from the media and journalism practice in Zimbabwe.

**[40 marks]**

**SECTION B: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS**

**Question 2**

The Zimbabwean government has demonstrated a profound lack of commitment to advancing the interests of media freedom. Discuss with reference to examples.

**[20 marks]**

**Question 3**

The legislation that governs the broadcasting operations in Zimbabwe is far too restrictive and effectively inhibits the free flow of information. Analyse this statement with reference to the Broadcasting Services Act.

**[20 marks]**

**Question 4**

Public figures and those involved in government should be able to swallow a high dosage of censure and criticism without being allowed easy recourse to the laws of defamation. Discuss this statement in reference to the laws of defamation in Zimbabwe and Internationally.

**[20 marks]**

**Question 5**

Without easy and unrestricted access to sources of information the concept of freedom of expression remains wishful thinking.

Discuss this statement with reference to laws that deal with access to information in Zimbabwe.

**[20 marks]**

**Question 6**

Which aspects of the laws of defamation do you think require amendment and why?

**[20 marks]**