

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

MEDIA LAW I: (IJM 1201)
MAY 2005 EXAMINATION
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Answer **any four** questions.
2. Start each answer on a new page.
3. You will be penalised for poor spelling and grammar.

Question 1

“The Zimbabwean government has demonstrated a profound lack of commitment to advancing the interests of media freedom”. To what extent is this statement the true. Give examples in your answer **[25 marks]**

Question 2

“The legislation that governs broadcasting in Zimbabwe is not as restrictive as some critics have alleged”. Analyse this view with reference to the Broadcasting Services Act. **[25 marks]**

Question 3

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. **[25 marks]**

Question 4

Without easy and unrestricted access to sources of information the concept of freedom of expression remains wishful thinking. Critically evaluate this assertion with reference to laws that deal with access to information in Zimbabwe. **[25 marks]**

Question 5

Which aspects of the laws of defamation do you think require amendment and why? **[25 marks]**

Question 6

Outline how the provisions of POSA affect journalists in the practice of their profession in Zimbabwe. **[25 marks]**

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