SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

BAC 3103: MEDIA LAW AND ETHICS

END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION

Date: Thursday 24th October 2019 Time: 08:00 – 10:00

Instructions: Answer ALL of SECTION A and two questions in SECTION B

SECTION A (30 marks)

Answer ALL questions in this section

Q1

(a) Identify the TWO conditions that must be proven for a statement to be legally defamatory. (6 marks).

(b) Describe THREE steps copyright holders must fulfill in a lawsuit against those they believe have misappropriated their works. (9 marks)

(c) Journalists need to be aware of the law in respect of personal privacy when pursuing a story. Explain SIX areas of personal privacy typically covered by legislation. (12 marks)

(d) Define the following terms (3 marks)

   (i) Patents

   (ii) Trade mark

   (iii) Plagiarism
SECTION B (30 marks)

Answer any TWO questions in this section.

Q2.

(a) Journalists in many countries are able to obtain information through freedom of information legislation. Some information is, however, typically exempt from being disclosed. Identify NINE typical exemptions to this general right of access to information. (9 marks)

(b) Explain the THREE circumstances that impose an obligation of confidence. (6 marks)

Q3.

(a) Discuss the FOUR exceptions where disclosure of a journalist’s source of information is necessary. [12 marks]

(b) Outline THREE penalties journalists face for violating common law contempt. [3 marks].

Q4.

(a) Provide a critique of scholar Francis Kasoma’s foundation of African ethics as summarised by F. Banda. (10 marks)

(b) Explain to what extent FIVE pillars of Kasoma’s foundation impact on modern African society. (5 marks)