

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

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| Module Title: Media Law and Regulation | Level: 4 | Credit Value: 30 |
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| Module code: HUM424 | Cost Centre: GAJM | JACS3 code: P500 |
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| Trimester(s) in which to be offered: | 1, 2 & 3 | With effect from: September 2014 |
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| Office use only: To be completed by AQSU: | Date approved: July 2014 Date revised: - Version no: 1 |
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| New/ Existing: New | Title of module being replaced (if any): HUM420 Media law and regulation |
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| Originating Academic Department: Creative Industries | Module Leader: Janet Jones |
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| Module duration (total hours): 300 Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 120 Independent study hours: 100 Placement hours: 80 | Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate): Core |
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| Programme(s) in which to be offered: Certificate of HE in Journalism | Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None |
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Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students will be able to ...

1. Apply media law knowledge and ethical principles to sourcing, researching, and producing news reports/features/packages (K1, K3)
2. Demonstrate knowledge of court processes, of terminology, and of the hierarchy of the courts (K1)
3. Understand contempt and related matters in producing legally safe reports/features/packages (K1, K2)
4. Demonstrate knowledge of legal and ethical restrictions on identifying individuals and anonymity for juveniles in court processes and the victims of sexual offences (K1)
5. Apply knowledge of the law of defamation and related matters to producing legally safe news reports/features/packages (K1)
6. Demonstrate a knowledge of copyright law in relation to news material
7. Produce news material complying with legal and ethical restrictions on privacy and misuse of private information (K6)
8. Use media specific research skills to investigate the legal and ethical parameters of news/feature production across all media platforms

Key skills for employability

1. Written, oral and media communication skills
2. Leadership, team working and networking skills
3. Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
4. Information technology skills and digital literacy
5. Information management skills
6. Research skills
7. Intercultural and sustainability skills
8. Career management skills
9. Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
10. Numeracy

Assessment:

Assessment 1 - Portfolio of news reports/features/packages covering:

A range of news stories from court, inquests or tribunals demonstrating the application of legal, regulatory and ethical knowledge. These should be accompanied by a reflective analysis of the areas of media law and ethics relevant to the story and the issues that had to be considered.

Assessment 2 - A selection of in-class tests on a range of media law topics. The half hour tests are held at two or three weekly intervals through the programme on specific areas of study. They are unseen and held under exam conditions. Students have to answer two/three questions.

| Assessment number | Learning Outcomes to be met | Type of assessment | Weighting | Duration (if exam) | Word count (or equivalent if appropriate) |
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| 1 | 1, 7, 8 | Portfolio | 50% | | Equivalent to 1,500 |

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| 2 | 2-6 | In-class test | 50% | 2hrs | |
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Learning and Teaching Strategies:

- Formal lectures covering key knowledge as outlined in the learning outcomes.
- Supervised work placements where students will attend and cover courts, inquests and tribunals
- Regular reviews in the work place with a university tutor and workplace supervisor
- Tutorials to guide students through their progress in compiling their portfolios

Syllabus outline:

- Defamation and related matters
- Contempt and related matters
- Court processes and the structure of the courts
- Open justice
- Juveniles/children in court cases
- Restrictions on identifying complainants in rape and sex offence hearings
- Challenging the courts
- Copyright
- Confidentiality and a journalist's sources
- Privacy
- The PCC Code
- The Ofcom Code

Bibliography:

Essential reading:

Dodd, M. Hanna, M (2014) *McNae's Essential Law for Journalists 22nd edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Indicative reading:

Quinn, F (2013) *Law for Journalists*. London: Pearson Longman

Barendt, E. Bosland, J. Crauford Smith, R. Hitchens, L. (2013) *Media Law: Texts, Cases and Materials*. London: Pearson Longman

Moore R. Murray M (2012) *Media Law and Ethics*. Abingdon: Routledge

Websites:

Media Lawyer

<http://www.medialawyer.press.net/>

Press Complaints Commission Code of Practice

<http://www.pcc.org.uk/>

Ofcom Broadcasting Code

<http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/broadcasting/broadcast-codes/broadcast-code/>

BBC Editorial Guidelines

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guidelines/editorialguidelines/>