PRIFYSGOL glyndŵr UNIVERSITY

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title:	**Introduction to Media Law and Regulation**	Level:	4	Credit Value:	20

Module code:	HUM436	Cost Centre:	GAJM	JACS3 code:	P300/P500

Trimester(s) in which to be offered:	2	With effect from:	September 2014

Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: September 2014 Date revised: - Version no: 1

Existing/New:	New	Title of module being replaced (if any):	

Originating Academic Department:	Creative Industries	Module Leader:	Janet Jones

Module duration (total hours):	200	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):	Core
Scheduled learning & teaching hours	48		
Independent study hours	152		

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BA (Hons) Broadcasting, Journalism and Media Communications	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels):

Module Aims:

This module aims to equip students with the broad knowledge and understanding of aspects of media law, regulation and ethics. This will include an introduction to the role of the communication industry within society. It will enable students to prepare material to be published or broadcast across multi media platforms in an ethical manner, with an awareness of the relevant law and media regulation.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Summarise the principles of defamation, contempt and legal anonymity (K1, K3)
2. Explain the legal restraints of intellectual property rights within the media industry (K1)
3. Recognise the broad ethical principles of communication industries and how media professionals engage with different social groups. (K3, K4)
4. Identify opportunities to use the Freedom of Information Act to access relevant public information (K3, K4)
5. Summarise the key structures of local and central government and the media's role in democratic accountability (K1)

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:

Indicative assessment:

Students will produce a portfolio of work based on case studies of legal, ethical and regulatory issues taken from the media.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1-5	Portfolio	100%		4,000 (equivalent)

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module will be delivered using a combination of formal lectures, practical workshop sessions, individual tutorials and guided learning to support the lecture and workshop content. External expert speakers from the media communications industry will be used to add extra context and specialism to lectures.

Syllabus outline:

An introduction to the legal principles of:
- the Defamation Act 2013
- common law contempt
- Contempt of Court Act 1981
- Sexual Offences Act 1996
- Children and Young Person Act 1933

An introduction to intellectual property rights affecting media practitioners

The principles of the Independent Press Standards Organisation code of conduct, the Ofcom regulation framework and BBC Editorial Guidelines

The Freedom of Information Act and how to use it

An introduction to the decision making structures of local and central government and press and public access to information

Bibliography:

Essential reading:

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

Other indicative reading:

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

Websites:

WhatDoTheyKnow
www.whatdotheyknow.com

Media Guardian daily news & weekly podcast
www.guardian.co.uk/media

Press Gazette
www.pressgazette.co.uk

BBC College of Journalism
www.bbc.co.uk/journalism

Hold the Front Page
www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk