



CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data

Module Title	Media Law and Ethics				
Module Code	UABAK5-15-M	Level	M	Version	1.0
Owning Faculty	ACE	Field	Broadcast and Journalism		
Contributes towards	MA Journalism				
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5	Module Type	Standard
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None	
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	NA	
Valid From	September 2012		Valid to	September 2018	

CAP Approval Date	June 1, 2012
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching

Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Understand competing conceptions of ethics, and how normative conceptions of ethics can be used to critically analyse existing laws and other regulations (Assessed in Component A and B) 2 Understand and analyse ethical challenges to journalists and other public communicators (Assessed in Component A and B) 3 Understand legal and normative concepts, such as human rights, privacy, libel, contempt (Assessed in Component A and B) 4 Recognise and critically analyse international media accountability systems and their role in the relationship between state, citizen and journalist (Assessed in Component A and B) 5 Understanding of a range of laws that apply to journalists, how they are applied, and how they impact on journalists and other media workers (Assessed in Component A and B) 6 Write in accord with accepted norms and legal provisions for court reporting and reflect on their experience of the English court system (Assessed in Component B)
Syllabus Outline	This module introduces students to both normative and legal frameworks for ethics at

	<p>an advanced level. In the first instance student will consider ethics and law from a conceptual-theoretic perspective to help them deepen their understanding. Understanding competing ethical frameworks will enable students not only to understand legal provision as they now stand, but also to reflect on legal provisions, thus inculcating a sense of critical awareness that will help them become better and more aware practitioners.</p> <p>The module then moves to consider the codification of ethics in a range of regulatory and legal tools, focussing on debates around issues such as free expression, media pluralism, state security and notions of public order in national, regional and international context. There is a strong focus on the changing environment in which journalists work, and the problems of juridifying relations therein.</p> <p>Students are also required to apply their knowledge in the production of publishable reports of a variety of court proceedings. In this application they will vet their journalistic production for legal pitfalls.</p>
<p>Contact Hours/Scheduled Hours</p>	<p>Total contact time will be 3.5 hours a week over 12 weeks = 42 hours</p>
<p>Teaching and Learning Methods</p>	<p>Scheduled learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be required to attend lectures each week as well as seminars, workshops and visits, averaging 3.5 hour per week • Students will be taught by specialist lecturers from within UWE as well as guest lecturers with particular fields of expertise. • Students will be required to attend visits to crown, magistrates' and coroners' courts. <p>Independent learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be required to undertake research on a case study as part of the assessment. • Students will need to spend time reading, viewing and listening to news output. • Students will be required to spend time reading set texts
<p>Reading Strategy</p>	<p>Core (essential) reading is required for this module and will be indicated from the outset in the module handbook via the module information on MyUWE or by the module tutors. Additional core readings that facilitate exercises and stimulate discussion (and are brief) may be clearly identified during the run of the module, e.g., a topical news article. Students will be given clear guidance on how to access these readings. Digital access will be the preferred option. Further reading is advisable for this module and students are encouraged to explore additional texts held in the library. These include a wide variety of print and online resources. The Library Service's web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services, and to the library catalogue. A current list of indicative titles of relevance to the module is given in the module handbook and revised annually. Guidance will be provided about how to access further reading and how students can identify relevant sources for themselves. To support students' development of information literacy skills, academic staff and the subject librarian will regularly review provision and support in line with current reading strategies.</p>
<p>Indicative Reading List</p>	<p>Banks, D. and Hanna, M. (2012) <i>McNae's Essential Law for Journalists</i>. 21st ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Barendt, E (2007) <i>Freedom of Speech</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Carey, P. (2010) <i>Media Law</i>. 5th ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.</p> <p>Centre for International Media Ethics http://www.cimethics.org/ Crock, T. (2010) <i>Comparative Media Law and Ethics</i>. London: Routledge.</p>

Jones, J. and Salter, L. (2012) *Digital Journalism*. London: Sage.
 Keller, P. (2011) *European and International Media Law: Liberal Democracy, Trade and the New Media*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
 MediaWise www.mediawise.org.uk
 OfCom <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/>
 Robertson, G. and Nicol, A. (2008) *Media Law*. 5th ed. London: Penguin.
 Tambini, D., Leonardi, D. and Marsden, C. (2007) *Codifying Cyberspace: Communications Self Regulation in the Age of Internet Convergence*. London: Routledge.

Part 3: Assessment

Assessment Strategy

In assessment 1 students will be required to produce a scholarly and production portfolio in which they will demonstrate their understanding of law, ethics and journalism by producing two court reports, as well as research-based reports on a range of legal and ethical challenges to contemporary journalism.

In assessment 2 students will be required to sit an exam in which they will be tested on regulatory frameworks, legal institutions, and key legal issues.

Assessment Criteria	Relating to Learning Outcomes	Source of Evidence
1. Ability to produce a well presented	1,2,3,4,5,6	Portfolio
2. Show understanding and the ability to analyse legal frameworks in a variety of contexts	1,2,3,4,5,6	Portfolio
3. Produce court reports to a high quality and in keeping with statutory requirements.	6	Portfolio
4. Knowledge of regulation, institutions and specific laws	1,3,4,5,6	Exam

Identify final assessment component and element

Exam A1

% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	50%	50%

First Sit

Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Exam (unseen, 2 hours)	100%
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Portfolio	100%

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Exam (unseen, 2 hours)	100%
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)
1. Portfolio	100%

If a student is permitted an EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.
