



**REFORMED CHURCH UNIVERSITY**

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**FACULTY OF ARTS, THEOLOGY, CULTURE AND  
HERITAGE STUDIES**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS HONOURS IN MEDIA AND DIGITAL  
STUDIES**

**MEDIA LAWS AND ETHICS**

**HMDS 103**

**PART 1 SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATION**

**TOTAL MARKS [100]**

Date: June 2024

Time: 3 Hours

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. This paper has *five (5)* questions
2. Answer any *three (3)* questions
3. Each question carries *100 marks*
4. Start each question on a new page

1. Critique the view, 'that the Zimbabwe Media Commission is well equipped to handle complaints from media consumers.' (25)
2. Assess the impact of the Broadcasting Services Act of Zimbabwe on the establishment of independent radio stations in Zimbabwe. (25)
3. Imagine you are a journalist covering the political desk, you get a high level tip off from a fellow journalist from a different media house that there is a new political party consisting of members of the current ruling party as its members. This unnamed party is alleged to be officially launching in the coming week, your editor insists that the story be written under the opinion column of your weekly paper. Discuss the ethical complications of running the story. (25)
4. "All state-owned media of communication must afford fair opportunity for the presentation of divergent views", Zimbabwean Constitution section 61 4 (c). Examine the extent to which this is being followed by the state media in Zimbabwe in relation to the coverage of the 2023 General Elections. (25)
5. 'The proliferation of internet use and citizen journalism undermine all ethics of journalism.' Discuss. (25)

**END OF PAPER**