



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

3RD YEAR/ SECOND SEMESTER

**SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES &
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES**

BACHELOR OF COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM

COURSE CODE: CMJ 3210-1

COURSE TITLE: INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

DATE: 03/6/2024

TIME: 0830-1030HRS

*Answer question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions.*

*This paper consists of **THREE** printed pages. Please turn over.*

QUESTION ONE

a) There are several qualities that are key to good investigative journalism. Discuss any TEN of these qualities. **(10 Marks)**

b) Read the scenario below and develop a plan on how you would go about investigating a corruption scandal. **(10 Marks)**

Corruption – a topic with two sides of a coin

But how would you answer in the case of the tender board member or the tax-evading ex? Exposing another allegedly corrupt individual may not have a major impact on social justice and the public interest more broadly. This is likely to be the case in countries where corruption and evading taxes are systemic in state structures and endemic in the behaviour of some social groups. Journalists often argue that by exposing one wrongdoer, others will 'get a fright' and the battle against corruption will be advanced. There is at least some truth in this. The danger of exposure will deter some aspiring robber barons and a small amount of money may be saved. And as it is taxpayers' money, the public does indeed have a right to know. But press exposure of countless corrupt individuals has shown little significantly impact on systemic corruption, as it is ingrained in all structures and transactions – and sometimes even in the structures that have been created to fight corruption.

But if journalists can use one instance of corruption to highlight flaws in the system that make tax evasion and bribery easier, that story may have significant impact. If investigative journalists can link the impact of tax evasion to the lack of resources for clinics, they can explain a public problem rather than simply bemoaning it. And if the way factions and parties use anti-corruption finger-pointing to take the spotlight away from their own misdeeds, these journalists have in-formed readers about the hidden processes of their country's politics.

QUESTION TWO

An ideal investigative story has absolute proof – the 'smoking gun' – that the wrongdoers have indeed caused the problems you allege. Explain the steps you would take to ensure accuracy while writing an investigative story. **(15 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

Several factors continue to inhibit the growth of a thriving investigative journalism in Kenya. Discuss any FIVE **(15 Marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

Investigative journalists gather and produce a great deal of information during their research, most of which is stored on mobile or computer devices. Explain FIVE techniques you would employ for securing your data. **(15 Marks)**

END//