

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

MAIN EXAMINATION 2008

TITLE OF PAPER: **PRINT REPORTING**

COURSE CODE: **JMC 303**

INSTRUCTIONS

*Answer any FOUR questions from SIX
Neatness, grammar and spelling will count in grading
Each question carries 25 marks.*

The examination lasts for THREE hours.

**DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION
JMC303 PRINT REPORTING – MAIN EXAMINATION 2008**

ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS FROM SIX

QUESTION 1

Develop one news report that would be suitable to be published in a Swazi newspaper of your choice under the heading ‘Community News’

You should:

- Identify a story
- Explain why it is ‘community news’ and why it is worth publishing
- Explain how you would go about researching the story. Give as much detail as you can: who you would need to speak to etc.

QUESTION 2

List the basic elements of a news story. How do news stories differ from feature articles? **(25 marks)**

QUESTION 3

Imagine you are a reporter on the Swazi Observer. Your editor asks you to become the newspaper’s special reporter covering education. How would you go about making sure that you had sufficient background knowledge of education in Swaziland so that you could do the job well? **(25 marks)**

QUESTION 4

You have been a reporter on the Times of Swaziland Sunday for five years and your editor asks you to become a regular feature writer and write factual articles (not opinion pieces). Give details of five ideas for features that you think would be suitable for the Times of Swaziland Sunday. **(25 marks)**

QUESTION 5

The topic of abortion has been very lively in the Swazi media over the past year. Write a comment (opinion) piece of 350 words suitable for the Times of Swaziland’s Just Thinking column. You must argue a case either in favour or against abortion (you cannot sit on the fence). **(25 marks)**

QUESTION 6

Choose someone you know who has an interesting story to tell about him or her and prepare a profile feature on him or her. They do not need to be famous but must have a story that will interest other people.

Describe in detail:

how you will decide who is interesting;

before you interview the person write down six questions you will want to ask;

what steps you will need to take when writing up the article to ensure you do not miss anything out. **(20 marks)**