COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: MCOM 2290: Mass Communications Law/Ethics

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
   1. Credits: 3
   2. Hours/Week: 3
   3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): College level reading and writing.
   4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None
   5. MnTC Goals (if any): NA

   This course covers origins and background principles of Mass Communications Law. Case law, statues, agency regulations that comprise precedents for laws that govern media professionals is included as well as social and ethical professional issues calling for critical judgment.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): May, 2009

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
   1. Libel and Slander/Defamation/Defenses, Malice, Public Figures
   2. Privacy
   3. Copyright
   4. Access to Government Information
   5. Obscenity, Indecency, Pandering
   6. Advertising
   7. News Person’s Privilege/Shield Laws, Contempt
   8. Broadcast Law/Regulations
   9. Professional Codes of Ethics

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will:
   Become familiar with legal philosophy regarding media, and American system of freedom of expression via case studies involving freedom of speech, press, assembly and petition.

E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC): NA

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
   1. Tests
   2. Exercise grades

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any): None