

International Journalism

BA (Hons), BA

Expected Intake

25

Mode of Study

Three years full time

Introduction

This course is designed for students who are interested in the dynamic change in today's world and intend to work as journalists in an international environment or work for global media networks. If you are interested in travelling, working abroad and reporting exciting stories from different parts of the world, this is the course for you.

The United Kingdom is one of the most important bases for international news organisations and global networks in the world. With a unique cultural access to both sides of the Atlantic and a defining influence all over the world, it is perhaps one of the best places to study International Journalism.

The Liverpool Screen School, based in the University's Faculty of Media, Arts and Social Science, embraces all forms of digital media, offering practice-based education as well as critical and historical perspectives on all aspects of the media. It was established in 2007, bringing together into a new environment a range of successful and established undergraduate and postgraduate courses in interactive media, computer games and animation, broadcast and print journalism, film and television. The courses work together in an exciting and dynamic way to embrace the potential of new technologies and to provide learning opportunities for students to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to work in the modern media industries and go on to do research and/or find employment in screen education.

The School has developed productive working relationships with media industries including the BBC, Sony, Trinity Mirror and Granada which, among other things, provide students with opportunities for work placements and research projects. There are also opportunities to work with the local media and/or community organisations. The courses are currently located in a modern and well-equipped building, Liverpool Innovation Park, near the city centre. Over the next three years LJMU is planning to develop a new building to house the Screen School.

The Liverpool Screen School has joined forces with Liverpool Community College to become the North West's first Skillset Media Academy. The national network, devised by Skillset - the UK Sector Skills Council for the Audio Visual Industries - is made up of just 22 Academies. Securing Skillset Media Academy status is recognition that the courses we offer are of exceptional quality and meet the demands of the media and creative industries for talented and highly skilled graduates.

This is a vocational course that aims to train future journalists to work in national and international media, global news networks and news agencies. The course combines practical modules practising writing and reporting in print, radio, TV and online journalism with theory modules studying media law, ethics, media theory and international politics.

This International Journalism course shares a number of modules with LJMU's Journalism programme, allowing students on the two courses to learn the fundamental skills and theory together and share their experiences.

The course team is committed to your career development and aims to prepare you for a number of different careers within journalism in the UK and abroad. Staff are all journalists with years of experience working for newspapers, radio and television. Several are leading researchers or authors in their fields and this is reflected in their teaching.

The course enables you to gain valuable graduate life skills, such as self-awareness, reflection and planning, time management, team and group work and career planning, and most importantly, the key skills relevant to the profession of journalism.

Students graduating from this course have gone on to work for newspapers and magazines, in radio and TV broadcasting and other news organisations in Britain, America, France, Germany, Norway, Finland, Russia, China and Egypt. Some have pursued postgraduate study at various British and European universities.

Why should I study International Journalism at LJMU?

The course intends to prepare students to work as reporters, editors, staff writers, correspondents and producers for any news media worldwide. Specifically, it integrates professional training in journalistic skills with the study of international issues that are relevant to the work of news organisations.

Students are taught by experienced journalists and recognised experts in international relations. Guest lectures and workshops are frequently organised for students who will benefit from the experiences, ideas and insights of working journalists and respected academics.

We are living in a rapidly changing world and journalism has become a truly global business. Your knowledge of journalism practice in a broader international context will provide you with a distinctive advantage over other job applicants in a competitive industry.

The department is equipped with specialist facilities that are designed to enable students to develop their journalistic skills and to work with industry-standard equipment. Our newsrooms are equipped with the Electronic News Production System (ENPS). Students learn and practise their skills in the department's newsrooms and radio and TV studios.

In addition, our students have easy access to the facilities in the Aldham Robarts Learning Resource Centre that combines traditional library facilities with computer workstations for students. The library has a rich collection of books, journals, audio and visual learning resources in the fields of journalism and international relations.

It is important to point out that Liverpool has a thriving journalism industry. The city has one of the country's largest and most successful evening newspapers (the Liverpool Echo) and a morning regional newspaper of national standing (the Liverpool Daily Post). The headquarters of the Trinity Mirror, the UK's largest newspaper publisher and the second largest in Europe, is located nearby in Chester. Trinity Mirror has more than 250 newspapers, over 50 magazines and more than 50 websites. Merseyside also has a flourishing local newspaper and magazine industry.

There are several television companies in Liverpool such as the BBC and Granada TV. Lime Pictures (formerly Mersey TV), creators of Brookside and Hollyoaks as well as numerous other TV programmes, is located in the city. The region also has around 25 radio stations including BBC local services which concentrate on news and current affairs (the department has a particularly close working relationship with BBC Radio Merseyside); a rolling news and sports digital radio service as well as a wide variety of music-led commercial stations, all of which employ journalists. Students have the opportunity at Level Three to work within some of the companies as part of their course. In the past, some of our students have been offered jobs after completing their work placements.

The International Journalism programme enables you to gain valuable skills in print, radio, TV and online journalism as well as a sound understanding of international affairs. You will also acquire such transferable skills as analysis and interpretation, presentation, teamwork, initiative and research, which are of lifelong value.

How will you spend your study time?

At each level you will be required to complete 120 credits, made up of a certain number of core modules, and a number of optional modules at Levels One and Three.

At Level One you will be required to complete all of the following modules:

- Introduction to Reporting
- Introduction to News Writing
- Introduction to International Journalism
- Introduction to International Relations
- Introduction Law and Ethics for Journalists
- Studying Journalism
- Approaches to Journalism
- An elective module (e.g. Shorthand, Journalism History)

At Level Two you will be required to complete all of the following core modules:

- Writing Skills
- International Law and Ethics
- Introduction to Print Production
- Introduction to Radio Journalism
- Introduction to TV Journalism
- Introduction to Online Journalism
- Contemporary International Relations
- Conflict, Terrorism and the News Media
- Academic Research

At Level Three you will be required to complete all of the following core modules:

- Journalism Regulation
- Advanced Journalism Practice
- Contemporary Issues in Journalism
- Issues in Global Security
- Journalism Final Project
- Dissertation

- Public Relations or Photography for Journalists or Sports Journalism

How will you be assessed?

There are several ways that you might be assessed in your degree. In addition to essays, reports, projects, examinations, class tests and portfolios of journalistic work, some modules are assessed in the work place. In the final year of your study, you are expected to produce a major journalism project in one particular discipline (print, radio, TV or online) that should match professional standards.

Graduate Employment and Careers

Senior business leaders in national and international companies are working closely with LJMU to identify the higher 'world of work' or WoW skills that will give our students a competitive edge when it comes to climbing the professional career ladder. No other university, either in the UK or internationally, offers you the chance to develop these WoW skills.

With the practical skills required by the journalism and media industry and an appreciation of news from a global perspective, students will be well positioned to seek employment in a variety of news organisations in the UK and other countries. The degree is relevant to a number of careers in journalism, public relations and publicity or other careers where communication skills are important. Our graduates have a good record of obtaining jobs in newspapers, magazines, radio and TV broadcasting within the UK and in Europe, America, Asia and the Middle East.

Why should you choose LJMU?

LJMU places work-related learning and graduate skills development at the heart of every undergraduate degree, without compromising academic quality. Senior business leaders in national and international companies are working closely with us to identify the higher 'world of work' (WoW) skills that give our students a competitive edge for rewarding careers.

No other university, either in the UK or internationally, offers you the chance to develop these WoW skills. LJMU is committed to raising the bar on all aspects of teaching, assessment, academic support and skills development. We offer excellent facilities, high quality degree programmes, supportive staff and a thriving student community drawn from 100 countries worldwide. LJMU is a vibrant university located in one of the most exciting, and affordable, student cities in the UK.

Why Liverpool?

Liverpool – an exceptional student city

Liverpool is a city that has something for everyone and is very supportive of the 50,000 students who live, work and study in its universities.

Rich in cultural heritage, the city has received World Heritage Site status and was the 2008 European Capital of Culture. According to Home Office statistics, Liverpool is one of the safest places in the UK too.

LJMU Bursaries and Scholarships

LJMU has an excellent and long-established record of reaching out to students with little experience or family tradition of attending university and helping them succeed in higher education.

LJMU offers a range of Special Support Bursaries and LJMU's scholarships reward both academic and personal achievement.

For more detailed information about funding, bursaries and scholarships, please visit:

<http://www.ljmu.ac.uk/study/ljmu/fees/85947.htm>

Course Fees

Fees p.a. 2010

LJMU's full time domestic tuition fees will be **£3,290** per year from 2010

What do current and past students say?

'I really enjoyed my three years at LJMU. The fact that nothing in the work environment has really tried me is a true testament to the course I studied.'

'Aiming for a career in international news reporting, the combination of journalism and international relations offered by LJMU was ideal for me. Hands-on modules in print journalism gave me the skills and confidence needed for my first "real life" assignments on international news desks.'

'(I) went straight to Moscow, Russia to start a job as a news anchor for a 24 hour global news channel called Russia Today. The course at LJMU was very hands on and I still draw on those experiences every day throughout my work.'

'The International Journalism course at LJMU was an amazing experience and a great stepping stone to the career I am pursuing today ...modules such as Contemporary International Relations ... have given me great knowledge and understanding of foreign affairs.'

'Choosing the International Journalism course back in 2005 was the best step I could have possibly taken.'

'The best part of my International Journalism course at LJMU was studying international relations ... On the practical side, LJMU provided exceptional good teaching in the journalism final project.'

'During the three years I undertook International Journalism ... I gained the skills required to develop a career in the international media ... I began my career in Egypt working for the Interantional Herald Tribune ... Following this I returned to the UK to work for a financial magazine in London.'

'The International Journalism course really fulfilled my expectations! ... I met lecturers from various backgrounds who were able to give me a real sense of journalism practice.'

Application and Selection (what are we looking for?)

You know what the entry requirements are, what the course will cover and what it will be like to study at LJMU in Liverpool, but what skills do you need to secure a place?

We are keen to recruit students who will make the best use of the opportunity to study with us. So we are looking for students with an enthusiasm for gathering news and interpreting it, and producing interesting reports for different audiences. You should have strong curiosity about what is happening in the world, whether it is in your local area, your own country or other parts of the globe. You also need to have good writing skills, a critical mind and an analytical ability.

You need to be interested in current affairs, especially international issues that affect our lifestyle, environment or security and be keen to pass that knowledge and understanding on to others. A special interest in art, politics, music, photography or other areas may also be helpful. You should follow news regularly by reading newspapers, listening to radio or watching TV programmes.

You should be interested in and sympathetic to people and their activities. You may well have studied a humanities and/or social science subject at school or college (e.g. English Language, English Literature, History, Politics, Sociology, Media Studies). An ability to speak a foreign language would be an advantage in pursuing a career in international journalism.

In particular, you should possess the following qualities:

- Good communication skills, as you will be expected to contribute to tutorials and host presentations. These skills are crucial for journalists because you have to interview people and interact with them constantly.
- Time management, as you will have to work to deadlines on a regular basis which is extremely important for journalists.
- Good IT skills, as you will be expected to submit work that has been word processed.
- Good analytical skills, so that you can critically analyse news events and evaluate their significance.
- Information retrieval techniques, as you will be expected to read around the subject and draw upon your findings for essays, reports, projects and your journalistic work.
- Teamwork, as you may have to work closely with others during your period of study at LJMU and in your career in journalism.

You should ensure that your UCAS application shows that you meet the following **essential criteria**:

- The ability to communicate ideas logically and in an easy-to-read, error-free style is vital and will be measured by your personal statement.
- Evidence of an interest in news-orientated media, including activities such as student newspapers/magazines, hospital radio or work placements.
- Evidence of an interest in the world around you: politics, science, history, finance, business, art, theatre, sports are among the areas for which we would expect you to have enthusiasm.
- Evidence of additional skills or knowledge in one of these areas: knowledge of current affairs, a foreign language (GCSE level or above), knowledge of different countries and cultures, or relevant work experience.

It would also be helpful if you are able to show the following in your UCAS application:

- An enthusiasm for IT and the new communication tools available on the internet and on mobile communication.
- Evidence of personal development such as art, music, creative writing, sport, outdoor activities, D of E award scheme.
- Involvement in social, community, political or charitable activities.

Entry Requirements

UCAS Tariff Points Required: 240-280

GCE A Levels

Minimum Number Required: 2

GCE AS acceptability: Not acceptable

GCE AS Double Award: Not acceptable

Subject Specific Requirements: Taken from a range to include English; a modern

Subject Specific Requirements:	language; history; politics; law
Excluded Subjects:	General Studies
Additional Information:	Will consider other A levels in combination with the above

BTEC

National Awards (6 units) (not including Early Years)	Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
National Awards Grades required / subjects required	Tariff points in a related subject
National Certificate (12 units) (not including Early Years)	Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
National Certificate Grades required / subjects required	DD in a related subject
National Diploma (18 units) (Not including Early Years)	Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
National Diploma Grades / Subjects required	MMM in a related subject

Welsh Baccalaureate

Advanced Diploma Acceptability	Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
Advanced Diploma Grades / Subjects reqd	Core plus DD at A2

Irish Leaving Certificate

Acceptability	Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
Grades / Subjects reqd	2 at B, 3 at C

Specialised Diplomas

Subject areas accepted	Creative and Media, Information Technology, Business, Administration and Finance
Grades reqd	Advanced Diploma - progression diploma grade C or above and C at A'Level
Additional Information	None

Key Skills

Is achievement encouraged?	Yes
Will Key Skills tariff points be counted towards an offer?	No
What minimum Key Skill level is appropriate?	3
Subject areas considered	Application of number, Communication, ICT, Improving own knowledge, Working with others, Problem solving

OCR National

Certificate (6 units)	Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
Certificate (12 units)	Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
Certificate (18 units)	Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Scottish Awards

Higher	Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
Advanced Higher	Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Access to HE

Acceptability

Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Additional Information

QAA approved Access to HE Certificate with a pass of 60% or Pass in the Access to HE Diploma in an appropriate area

International Baccalaureate

Acceptability

Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Additional Information

260 UCAS tariff points from the IB Diploma

Additional Qualifications considered

Advanced Extension Award

Acceptability

Not acceptable

GCSE / Standard Grades

5 GCSE's grade C above including English Language and Mathematics

Other qualifications considered

Mature students (over 21) - Applicants will be considered on individual merit but will need to demonstrate that they have the relevant skills and/or qualifications for entry. They may be required to attend an interview and/or submit a piece of written work. We welcome overseas applicants who will be considered in line with normal entry requirements, although English Language capability of IELTS 6.5 (6.0 in each subtest) or equivalent is required.

How to apply

All applicants should apply through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) system.

If you need help or advice on your individual application, you should contact your careers adviser or call the UCAS Customer Service Unit on **+44 (0)871 468 0 468**, open Monday to Friday, 08:30-18:00 hrs(UK time)

If you are calling from outside the UK and are unable to use the number above, please contact them on **+44 (0)870 1122211**.

You can also write to them:

UCAS
Customer Service Unit
PO Box 28
Cheltenham
GL52 3LZ.

You may also apply online by using the 'Apply' application service which provides detailed screen and help text to assist you in making your application: <http://www.ucas.co.uk/students/apply/>

UCAS Code Name:

LJM

UCAS Institution Code Name

L51

UCAS Course Code

P510

UCAS Course Abbreviation

BA/Journ

Will I be interviewed?

No interview required (UCAS application form only)

Can this course be deferred?

Yes, please contact us to discuss your options

What happens next?

If you are from the UK or EC, you will receive a letter and an open day invitation directly from the School's Admissions Unit. The offer will also be confirmed via UCAS. Open days include an opportunity to meet academic staff and current students, as well as a tour of LJMU facilities. International students will receive confirmation of their offer from the International Office, along with details about accommodation, fees and other important information. If you choose LJMU as your 'FIRM' choice, you will receive enrolment and induction information upon confirmation of your results.

Further information

Please contact the Faculty of Media, Arts and Social Science on:

tel: 0151 231 5175

fax: 0151 231 5099

email: massadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk

If you have any queries relating to LJMU or university life in general please contact:

**Student Recruitment Team
Liverpool John Moores University
Roscoe Court
4 Rodney Street
Liverpool
L1 2TZ**

Tel: +44(0)151 231 5090

Fax: +44(0)151 231 3462

Email: courses@ljmu.ac.uk

Web: www.ljmu.ac.uk

Further information: International Students

For further information please visit the website at: <http://www.ljmu.ac.uk/International/>