



International Journalism

MA

MA International Journalism

This is a one-year full-time course intended to be of interest to those working as a journalist or those with a serious interest in journalism. The course is designed to develop the ability of students to critically analyse the purpose and structure of Journalism and to evaluate the processes and products of both their own and other people's journalism. Although there are option modules that teach the basics of journalism practice within the UK, this course is not intended to provide training to fit a student directly for work in the industry and students looking for such training courses are advised to consider the MA Journalism. The course is modular, in line with JMU policy and the structure is outlined below.

Course content

Core modules:

News and Professional Practice

This will examine news and explore why some events are newsworthy and others are not. It will examine why we are interested in gossip and discuss such concepts as "dumbing down". It will also look at professional practice by examining the modern products of UK journalism and offer students the opportunity to reflect on their own journalism practice or the journalistic practice of others. Students who are experienced journalists will be advised instead to study:

Reflecting on Professional Practice

This module will give students an opportunity to analyse in depth the production and dissemination

of news on a topical basis, reflecting on their own, or the practice of others.

Comparative Media Analysis

Gives students an in-depth understanding of the media in an international context allowing the comparison of media in different cultures and the part ownership and structure play in the dissemination of news.

Academic Research for Journalists

This will introduce students to academic research methods and allow them to develop the skills needed to undertake the dissertation.

Media Ethics and Human Rights

This will analyse and evaluate media ethics and how they are policed. It will start by looking at how these grow from our basic human rights and how journalistic ethics are inseparable from the democratic ideology and its links with human rights.

International Relations for Journalists

This will examine international affairs and allow students to critically analyse the diplomatic, political and economic issues that affect our security and international relations.

Dissertation

This is an extensive piece of individual work that will allow the student to research and examine in depth an aspect of journalism.

Optional modules:

Journalism Studies

This will introduce students to the theories of audience, representation, media structure and regulation and is intended for those with journalistic experience.

Assessment

Assessment is mixed, with practical modules usually based around portfolios of written work and simulated or real exercises. Theory modules are more generally assessed by essays, although there are a few presentations and an exam.

International links The journalism department at JMU has a growing international reputation and in the past has won contracts with the British Council to liaise with universities abroad. The department is involved in a range of international projects and is developing links with various countries.

Staff expertise Staff are all journalists with years of experience working for newspapers, radio and television. Chris Frost is chair of the National Union of Journalist's Ethics Council, a former president of the NUJ and former chair of the Association of Journalism

Educators. He writes about ethics and news including four books: "Journalism Ethics and Regulation", "Reporting for Journalists", "Media Ethics and Self-Regulation" and "Design for Newspapers and Magazines", numerous papers and book chapters. Richard Rudin has co-authored "An Introduction to Journalism". Glyn Mon Hughes is working on journalism and minority languages. Jackie Newton is researching the impact of journalism on those in life-changing circumstances, Rex Li has written on various aspects of international relations and his publications include two co-edited books and many articles in academic journals.

Length of Course

One year full time.

Entry requirements

Candidates will generally hold a bachelors degree with a pass of at least lower second class. Those without a degree will be considered depending on their circumstances. It is anticipated that since this programme will be of interest to those who are practising journalists, one possible non-degree entry route will be a minimum of five years journalistic experience. Any applicant over the age of 23 who has worked as a journalist, press officer, information officer or a similar post for at least five years should contact the course team to discuss the possibility of them joining the course. All students who show potential to benefit from the course in line with the university's mission statement may be invited to interview (this is may be carried out by phone for students from abroad).

Overseas students: Overseas students are welcomed provided they are able to match an IELTS score of 7.0 or better and can show potential to benefit from the course in line with the University's mission statement.

How to Apply

Direct to the Admissions Unit.

To request an application form, please contact:

Admissions Unit
Faculty of Media, Arts and Social Science
Liverpool John Moores University
Dean Walters Building
St James Road
Liverpool
L1 7BR

Tel: +44(0)151 231 5175

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