HOW TO BE A JOURNALIST
2017/18

Inside
- Advice from top journalists
- Directory of courses
- How recent graduates got their break
There are a number of ways aspiring journalists can achieve an NCTJ qualification, including:

- NCTJ-accredited undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses
- Fast-track and academic year courses
- Distance learning
- Apprenticeships

The majority of successful journalists working in print, broadcast and online are NCTJ trained and qualified. We don’t sell the dream of a journalism career, we accredit the reality.

The National Council for the Training of Journalists delivers the premier training scheme for journalists in the UK, equipping students with the skills they need to become effective journalists in a fast-changing multimedia industry.

You may be eligible for funding through the Journalism Diversity Fund. For more information, head to www.nctj.com or telephone 01799 544014.
Journalism: An exciting job if you are curious about the world, interested in people and thrive under pressure

Andy Cairns
Sky Sports News executive editor

Why become a journalist? The industry is an uncertain one and it pays less than other professions!

“It’s such an exciting job. If you’re curious about the world, interested in people, thrive working under pressure, then journalism is fun and fulfilling.

“You cover the most exciting events of the day, have the chance to ask questions to interesting people and find out things some people don’t want anyone else to know!”

“News journalists have the daily adrenaline rush of turning stories around quickly, those with longer deadlines have the satisfaction of digging deep into a subject, specialist journalists often get the chance to do both. And there’s no buzz that can beat breaking a massive story that has everyone talking.”

Why bother training on an NCTJ course, don’t lots of journalists ‘stumble in’ to the job without formal training?

“An NCTJ course will give you the training, skills and knowledge to set you up for a career as a journalist. It certainly gives you the edge over those without a qualification when looking for that first job. NCTJ accredited courses have to meet demanding national standards. And employers work with the NCTJ to make sure that what’s being taught in the training centres is relevant.”

OK, so if you’re going to go on an NCTJ course – any thoughts on the best path to take (apprenticeship, undergrad, post-grad)?

“Have a look at the different courses on offer and find what suits you. Some people benefit from a three-year degree but there are some excellent post-graduate courses as well.

“For those whose circumstances mean a one or three-year course isn’t practical I’d recommend looking at the Fast-track or part-time courses on offer. These are intense but then again so is journalism.

“And increasingly employers like Sky are now offering apprenticeships, taking applicants from scratch and helping them through their studies alongside their on the job training. Most traditional employers want journalists with 100 words per minute shorthand. Whichever course you choose aim to qualify with the NCTJ Gold Standard to really improve your chances of a job.”

What’s your advice on how to get a place on a good course?

“Make sure your application has no spelling mistakes. Show that you’re passionate about journalism. Some courses hold interviews, others have entrance tests, so be up to date with news stories and key people in the news. It helps if you’ve written for school and college magazines and websites, written match reports or reviews or contributed to local news websites. And if you’ve done work experience show how that supports your application. It may not have been in journalism but it may have given you a story idea.

How can students make the most of their training?

“Ask questions – especially if there’s anything you don’t understand. It’s good practice for when you start work as a journalist as well! And push for your training centre to organise frequent and regular accompanied visits to court, inquests, parliament, council meetings, sports events, company annual general meetings.

“It’s really important you understand the processes and etiquette around these before you start work for real.”

What do you think makes a good journalist?

“If you land an interview make sure you are fully prepared, know what stories that organisation has covered and how they’ve covered them. Have a couple of questions ready for the end of the interview.”

What can they do now to set themselves on their way?

“For those who may be in work and are looking at the Fast-track or part-time courses on offer. These are intense but then again so is journalism.

“It’s such an exciting job. If you’re curious about the world, interested in people, thrive working under pressure, then journalism is fun and fulfilling.”

What’s your advice on finding a job in journalism?

“Curiosity, an ability to listen and an ability to ask questions that draw out answers that offer insight.

“You’ll also need to be resilient, determined and prepared to work long hours when required.

“When it comes to writing – be it for print, digital or spoken word – be precise.

“Be accurate around that report, be exact and economical with the words you use.”

STUDY JOURNALISM

Become a journalist in our multimodal, digital-first, multimedia newsroom, home to BBC Newcastle. Publish your work from day one, on our Student websites including award-winning Spark Radio and perfect your craft alongside visiting journalists from organisations such as Trinity Mirror and Johnston Press.

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Tips from the pros: Be really nice, work hard and ask yourself: 'Why would my mum care?'

“Absolutely, every day. There are legal and editorial challenges and judgments factored in across every programme with almost every story, and Teeline is vital in taking down swift notes in telephone or face to face interviews.

Above all the course taught me the merits of absolute precision in note-taking, scripting and how to shape and tell a news piece. Don’t flan it up; just tell the story.

‘Keep your opinions to yourself, don’t assume knowledge or write in a self-indulgent self-reflectively clever way and keep to the facts, but always with the question “why would my mum care about this?” at the forefront of your mind.

‘If there’s no reason to care, nothing inherently interesting or grabby about it then no-one will read beyond the first par, regardless of how beautifully crafted it may be.

“We had a mythical woman called Nora in the garden. The test was whether her equally mythical husband would call her indoors to read your piece/watch your item.

“Come in Nora. They’ve got the Iranian deputy foreign minister on the radio...” There are an awful lot of times when Nora carries on gardening...

“Go to where nobody else is and write about it.”

Louise Callaghan has also covered Iraq for the paper where she was fired on by ISIS fighters whilst covering the siege of Mosul.

Talking about her job, she said: “I’m just trying to let people know what’s happening on the ground.

“It’s great that The Sunday Times still think it’s worthwhile to send reporters even though it might be expensive or not very pleasant.

“They haven’t got caught up in this whole thing of writing everything up from the desk and relying on checking Twitter and copying what you see there.”

She also reported from Serbia on the plight of refugees suffering sub-zero temperatures in Belgrade whilst trying to make their way into Europe.

She said: “I think it’s very important to try and give people human stories so that Lucy can see what’s actually happening. They are just like you and me, and they’re not this faceless mass that are just coming to take all our jobs.”

Her advice to an aspiring foreign correspondent: “Go to where nobody else is and write about it. People like Anthony Loyd have made an incredible career of just rocking up where something is happening and writing about it.”
Khaleda Rahman

How did the Journalism Diversity Fund help you?
“The Journalism Diversity Fund gave me the financial support I needed to cover the cost of my fast-track journalism course at News Associates in London. Without it, I would have struggled to pay for my course on top of the cost of living in London.”

How are you enjoying your job – what are the good points/bad points?
“After getting my NCTJ, I did a couple of internships, one thanks to Creative Access and one as the JDF’s intern - before landing a job on a local newspaper. I really enjoyed working there, but left because I got a spot on the Mail Online Graduate Trainee Scheme.

“You spend a year working in the London office, then you get a chance to go to another country as a secondment. I got the chance to go to New York and after that, I had the chance to go to Australia and I’ve loved being there.”

Has your NCTJ training come in handy?
“Absolutely. I use the skills I learned during my NCTJ training every single day. I still take notes using shorthand, practise the interview skills I was taught regularly. Media law is also incredibly useful when it comes to writing court or legally sensitive stories.”

What advice would you give to a sixth former considering a career in journalism?
“Get work experience at a local paper, write for their student newspaper or magazine or start a blog. Get in touch with working journalists or follow them on social media to get a sense of what the job is like.

“The best thing about the NCTJ is that it provides hands-on training and experience of what it’s like working in a newsroom, so gaining some experience before pursuing a career in journalism can be a huge advantage.”

Bex Bastable

How did the Journalism Diversity Fund help you?
“I wouldn’t have been able to afford to study the NCTJ without the bursary for the NCTJ - I also would have had to put off my plans for some time to save the money to do so.

“Journalism is a dream come true. I think it’s important that people from all backgrounds have a chance to get into journalism, so the newsrooms reflect the society we live in. We still have some way to go in that respect.”

Would you have got into journalism without it?
“It would have been very difficult to find the funds to study my NCTJ without the Journalism Diversity Fund - and the NCTJ is essential if you want to work in newspapers. But I’d like to think I would have always found a way.”

Advice from Journalism Diversity Fund recipients: Shorthand is invaluable... get work experience

The UK news industry recognises that it needs to better represent the communities it represents.

The Journalism Diversity Fund has handed out more than 200 training grants over the last 12 years to help those from ethnically and socially diverse backgrounds train to become journalists. It was launched 12 years ago with support across the journalism industry to address concerns that publications were not reflecting the communities they were trying to represent.

Here three Journalism Diversity Fund recipients share their experiences.

www.journalismdiversityfund.com
How are you enjoying your current job as content editor at the Brighton and Hove Independent?

"Every day in journalism is different. You get to cover court, interview 100-year-olds and hear their amazing life stories, carry out the important role of holding authorities to account, and try out new things for features.

“You become a real part of the community you serve and get to speak with so many interesting people. The downsides would probably be the hours - news doesn’t stop at 5.30pm, and when big stories break in your area, you have to be prepared to drop everything to cover them.”

Has your NCTJ training come in handy?

"Yes. If you’re going to work in journalism knowledge of media law and public affairs is essential. To cover court and council meetings you need 100 words per minute shorthand. The training does prepare you for the job, and you will find it hard to get hired without an NCTJ.

What advice would you give to a sixth former considering a career in journalism?

“Write as much as you can. Start up a blog, have taken longer and been far harder to fully commit to whilst balancing a full-time job."

"The JDF meant I could focus on my studies and really get the most out of the course and my placement."

How are you enjoying your job working as a reporter for the Liverpool Echo?

"I love my job. I look forward to coming in to work every day and I never know what fresh challenges or opportunities I’ll be walking in to.

“I’ve learnt so many new skills, gotten to do things that would never have been possible for me before and reported on live breaking news events that became national news.

"Being first to a story, finding content that will resonate with our audience and helping to set the regional and national news agenda are all good points.

"Bad points would involve the response you sometimes get from readers or members of the public in your line of work. You just need a thick skin to deal with this.”

Has your NCTJ training come in handy?

"Shorthand has been absolutely invaluable in my work. I use it every single day and would not be able to do my job without it.

"My grounding in media law has also proven incredibly useful in my court reporting."

What advice would you give to a sixth former considering a career in journalism?

“Learn shorthand. If your course doesn’t put it in, then you need to motivate yourself to get 100 word per minute regardless.

“Learn to drive - it’s incredibly useful if you want to be a news reporter and employers will ask.

“Do as much work experience as you possibly can.

"Get placements anywhere and everywhere - turn up with stories and ideas.

"Once you’ve finished a placement, ask if you can go back again and have another week in the office.

"Getting experience under your belt and getting your name out there is so important when you’re starting out.”

Emilia Bona

How did the Journalism Diversity Fund help you?

“Without the Journalism Diversity Fund I would not have been able to afford my NCTJ or the costs of studying full-time without employment.

"It enabled me to take on a full-time short-course with the NCTJ, which qualified me for my job in a matter of months.

"Without the JDF I would have had to undertake a part-time course, which would have taken longer and been far harder to fully commit to whilst balancing a full-time job.

“We offer the following Single Honours Undergraduate degrees:

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Technology has thrown journalism into flux but it has also created new opportunities

Financial Times head of digital delivery
Robin Kwong

on his start in journalism and how the industry is changing.

I was about five weeks into my journalism career – my first job – when I was told to go see our staff photographer: “Get a nice portrait taken. We’re putting you in the paper.”

Our gossip columnist was going on maternity leave, and since I happened to be the graduate trainee assigned to her column at the time, I was being promoted to Acting CitySeen Columnist for the South China Morning Post in Hong Kong. My face was to be printed on the first inside page of a newspaper that went out to more than a hundred thousand people every day.

I was not ready. I didn’t study journalism in university and I had no intention of being an entertainment reporter, let alone a gossip columnist. Other people thought it was a rare privilege to be given a quarter-page in a major metropolitan newspaper at the age of 21; I questioned the life choices I made that positioned me to, most likely, fail in a very public way before I had even begun.

That was 13 years ago. Since then, I have been a political reporter at the South China Morning Post, Taiwan correspondent for the Financial Times and technology editor for the FT. I joined the FT’s interactive news team in 2014 so I could learn how to code and how to do data journalism. From there, I proposed a new role for myself, as Special Project Editor, to introduce a more collaborative, multi-disciplinary way of doing journalism. I am now Head of Digital Delivery in charge of experiments in digital storytelling and bridging the gap between the newsroom and other parts of the FT.

I mention all this to show that there are many different ways to be a journalist, that it’s ok to try new paths, and that you will rarely fail in the specifically cataclysmic way you imagine in your head.

These are important lessons because the industry is still in flux as it adapts to new technology. There are fewer newsroom jobs available. Newsgathering is expanding to include data analysis, computer-assisted reporting, and drone videography. Even more upheaval has come in the ways we present and distribute the news, from newsletters and social videos to podcasts and virtual reality.

This is an exciting time to be in journalism. The same technological forces that are upending traditional publishing business models are also giving us the tools to be ambitious and try new ways of doing journalism. We are all still trying to find our balance – between civic duty and commercial viability; between journalism as creative expression and journalism as a service that helps people by giving them what they want and need.

For the aspiring journalist, the bad news is that there is no longer one well-defined set of skills you can learn to guarantee a career in journalism. The good news is that you can do well – and do good – in journalism even if you come from a different background or have other skills, such as statistical analysis, illustration, or project management. The fundamentals of what is needed to be a journalist remains the same now as when I first started: The curiosity to ask questions and be interested in the world, the creativity to find a good way to tell the story, and the integrity to ensure that it is done in the service of truth rather than personal gain.

I started learning all three when I was Acting CitySeen Columnist, and I’ve not stopped learning them since. Fortunately, there are useful lessons not only for being a good journalist, but also for making sense of a rapidly changing world, even if it means inventing a new job for yourself.
Meet the journalism apprentices

In recent years apprenticeships have emerged as a new way of getting into journalism

These opportunities are only going to increase now that the apprenticeship training levy is in force (as of April 2017). This requires all employers with a wage bill of more than £3m a year to pay 0.5 per cent of their annual pay bill training apprentices. Currently there are around 80 apprentice journalists who combine training at an NCTJ-approved college with paid work for a news organisation. Apprenticeships have the advantage of providing free training, on the job experience and a modest salary. They are advertised by individual employers and on the website: www.findapprenticeships.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch

John Patrick Asher 26, from Hitchin in Hertfordshire

“I got into journalism in September 2015 after coming back from some years living abroad and seeing an ad in my local paper, the Comet, advertising the two-year apprenticeship scheme. After a period as a floating reporter working across the patch I was made lead reporter for the towns of Letchworth and Baldock in May 2016.

“I cover all sorts of things, from community events to court cases and even sometimes international stories. I have written world exclusive stories, for example last year about the British offshoot of Panama papers firm Mossack Fonseca. It is hard work up to 14 hours a day, but very satisfying and I work with some great people.

“Working as a journalist is not highly-paid and it is very hard work – especially if you want to do it well – so you have to have a real passion for it.

“It may sound obvious, but it’s amazing the number of journalists I have come across who have trouble with basic grammar and spelling, so make a real effort to iron this out early.

“Get in touch with your local paper and ask for a few days’ work experience, and the spell in the newsroom will help you figure out whether journalism is really for you. If it is, start working towards your 100-word-per-minute shorthand and NCTJ diploma – or if you can, get yourself onto an apprenticeship that will allow you to do so alongside full-time work.

“The key is to not be shy – just be inquisitive, sociable and trustworthy and before too long you’ll set up a good set of contacts, and people from the community you cover will be coming to you with the stories.”

Rachel Coburn 24, from Glasgow

“I got onto a journalism apprenticeship course at the BBC in 2015 after deciding that university wasn’t for me.

“It was actually the second time I’d applied for a BBC apprenticeship; the first time around I wasn’t even shortlisted for an interview, and I was totally devastated. For the next year I focused on gaining some experience – I volunteered for a magazine and kept a monthly blog. When I applied again in 2015, I was armed with the experience to get in and got the job. It has totally and completely changed my life.

“During the apprenticeship I worked across online, radio and TV news. I was trained on the job and also completed classroom-based learning towards an NCTJ diploma. After perhaps a year on the job I found myself gravitating towards video production, and spent the final months of my apprenticeship learning how to edit and applying for video journalism jobs. I’m lucky enough now to have a contract with BBC Stories, doing what I love.

“Two years ago I worked in a call centre and now I can say I’ve been on telly.

“If I can do it, you can too. Just be ready to prove that you’re passionate and willing to learn.

“This is an especially exciting time to be a journalist and the industry needs a range of voices to properly represent all parts of society.

“Maybe one of them could be yours.”

Study broadcasting, media and journalism at the heart of the sports industry

The media landscape has changed almost beyond recognition in recent years following a digital revolution. In that time, sports journalism has also developed to become the fastest growing sector in UK media.

Traditional print and broadcast sports journalism, while still powerful communications platforms, are being forced to adapt and change in order to survive in a new and rapidly-developing media environment. Journalists of all disciplines are now expected to develop a range of digital and social media skills which enable them to tell a story across a number of platforms in order to reach a wider global audience.

At UCFB, a world-first in sports education, we offer unique media degree programmes designed to equip students with a range of sports journalism, broadcast media and business skills to maximise their employability upon graduation and to thrive in the rewarding sports media industry.

Studying at our inspirational campuses in London and Manchester, which have the state-of-the-art Wembley and Etihad Stadium at their heart, students are taught by best-in-class academics and have the opportunity to apply for amazing work experience placements in the UK and abroad. Previous students have worked with the media team at the UEFA Champions League final and England international games at Wembley.

On top of this, UCFB’s Executive Guest Speaker Series allows students the opportunity to apply for amazing work experience placements in the UK and abroad. Previous students have worked with the media team at the UEFA Champions League final and England international games at Wembley.

To find out more, please visit: ucfb.com/gazette

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Josie Hannett 21, from Tenterden in Kent

“I started as an editorial apprentice at the Kent Messenger Group in September 2014. “I went straight from sixth into the newsroom at 18 years old, where I gained experience firstly in print at my local KM paper, then online, radio and my final stint was TV. “The apprenticeship gave me on the job experience which I feel was invaluable, alongside getting my NCTJ qualification at college. The work/training balance was great and gave me a chance to put the theory I learned at college, like shorthand and media law into practice in the work place. “At 21, I’m the producer of Kent Tonight, an hour-long news programme every evening, and a video journalist appearing on-screen. “I’ve now moved on to work at Sky News, as a Video Producer for The Football Association. “I left sixth form not wanting to go to university and spent a few years working in social media and PR and doing my own fashion blogging and knew that I wanted to move in to the direction of journalism. “I had begrudgingly applied for a university place to study and help move me into the field but when the apprenticeship came up I binned that off and started working at the Independent and Evening Standard. “I spent four days a week at work and one day a week at college with other apprentices working across the industry. “I was treated like a proper journalist as part of the team, pitching and writing stories and helping other journalists with their stories. “The apprenticeship was two years long and afterwards I was offered a job at the Independent website. “I’ve now moved on to work at Sky News on their political news desk – something I don’t think I could’ve got without my apprenticeship.”

Mollie Goodfellow 24, from Essex

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Glossary

To pass yourself off as a proper journalist you will need to know the jargon of the trade.

Here is a guide to some journalism lingo:

Broadsheet A large format newspaper (such as The Daily Telegraph). But can also include other up-market tabloid-size titles, such as The Times.

Byline Your name at the top of a story.

Caption Explanatory words next to a photo.

Chapel Name for the National Union of Journalists group at a publication.

Death knock Macabre term for calling at the home of the relative of a deceased person.

Editors’ Code A list of ethical rules which cover members of IPSO (see below).

IPSO The Independent Press Standards Organisation. Self regulation body covering most newspapers and magazines.

Leader The editorial column of a newspaper.

Libel A story which harms someone’s reputation. If it is untrue it could cost your publication a lot of money.

Masthead The newspaper’s name as it appears on its front page.

Off the record A conversation where your source does not want to be named. They may still let you quote them as an anonymous source or let you use the information, without quoting or attribution (on background).

Off duty Stories which journalists find themselves, rather than news events which are known about in advance so are in the diary.

Sub editor A journalist whose job is check the work of others, lay it out on a page and write headlines.

UCFB is a world-first in sports education, delivering university degrees in the football, sport and events industries.

State-of-the-art campuses in London and Manchester, which have the iconic Wembley and Etihad Stadium at their heart, provide an inspirational setting to live, learn and work in.

Our BA (Hons) Multimedia Sports Journalism, BA (Hons) Football Business & Media and BA (Hons) Sports Business & Sports Broadcasting programmes equip students with the necessary skills to maximise their employability and to thrive in the rewarding sports media industry.

UCFB football business media graduate Alex Brown in his role as a VideoProducer for The Football Association.

For more information, visit ucfb.com/gazette.
Apprenticeships providing fast-track to the nationals

The Times and Sun publisher is investing in tomorrow’s reporters

Unlike some degrees in journalism or media studies which often fail to provide students with skills they need to be working journalists, the News Associates’ course only covers specific skills required to work in a newsroom.

The first three Sun apprentices taken on at the start of 2017 have completed their initial training and are now working full-time in The Sun’s newsroom at London Bridge.

The second intake of Sun apprentices Danny De Vlaal, Theo Jacobs, Jessica Lester, Bonnie McLaren and Danielle O’Brien are all non-graduates and have joined Shingi Mararik who is being sponsored by The Sunday Times.

These latest apprentices started in September 2017, spending Mondays to Thursdays at News Associates' offices in Wimbledon.

On Fridays and occasionally at weekends, they work in their newsrooms gaining experience at The Sun or The Sunday Times.

Bonnie said: “I’m so delighted to be on The Sun’s apprentice scheme and to learn on the job with News Associates.

“It’s always been my dream to be a showbiz reporter, so I can’t believe I’ll be working on Bizarre. It’s been really surreal, but all the staff have been so friendly and helpful.”

Shingi said: “A job at my favourite newspaper alongside a training programme at News Associates is an amazing opportunity. I’m looking forward to developing essential skills I can take with me into the newsroom for years to come.”

At the end of the 22-week training, the apprentices will sit the Diploma in Journalism, run by the industry’s training body, the National Council for the Training of Journalists.

They will then finish their apprenticeships working in the newsroom putting into practice everything they’ve learned.

News UK’s News Academy works with 18 to 25 year olds who are passionate about journalism.

It offers a mix of masterclasses and training, career advice and support, plus work experience, internships and for the best, paid work at The Sun, The Times and The Sunday Times.

More information is available from: academy.news.co.uk

Advice from Daily Echo editor Andy Martin:

‘Believe in yourself and try to make a difference’

How important is an NCTJ qualification when you are hiring staff?

“It’s hugely important. The NCTJ remains the gold standard for our profession. Yes, it’s one if the first two things I look for – along with personality.”

What are the most important skills that people learn on an NCTJ course?

“A deep understanding of how things work, knowledge across so many areas of public life and the confidence to go out into the world and do a great job.”

“Call me old fashioned, but yes. To be able to cover things like council, courts and inquests is vital. And a permanent record.”

Would you still recommend a career in the local press?

“Many local newspapers have closed in recent years. I would. Even if the job is not forever, the local media/newsroom remains a brilliant place to learn about all sorts of things and develop a multitude of ‘very transferrable skills in this competitive and challenging digital age.”

What’s the best thing about working in local newspapers?

“Holding power to account, making trouble, doing good things and giving people a voice. And working with dedicated and hard working journalists who are totally committed to their cause.”

And the toughest?

“Doing the above with fewer resources, knowing you can’t do everything you used to and that more people, especially in the public sector, are getting way with stuff.”

If you could go back in time, what careers advice would you give to your 18-year-old self?

“Believe in what you do and try to make difference.”

Bournemouth Daily Echo editor Andy Martin is also chairman of the NCTJ’s journalism qualifications board. Here he answers Press Gazette’s questions.

Q: How do I get a job on a national newspaper?

A: There’s a new way in

It used to be pretty straightforward: find work as a junior reporter on a local paper or news agency then after a couple of years learning the craft persuade a Fleet Street news editor or chief sub to give you some casual shifts.

If you were blessed with a bit of talent and a lot of luck, a few shifts might turn into regular casual work.

Then if the journalism gods were shining on you, your next move might be to become a junior reporter on a local paper or news agency.

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University of Kent

About 30 seconds

Our unique OFCOM-licensed television station, KMTV, broadcasts 24/7 on Freesat and Virgin throughout Kent, and is based within the university’s Centre for Journalism.

Its newsroom and studio are less than half a minute’s walk from our awesome student facilities.

Many of our students get paid KMTV internships as early as their second year of undergraduate study - and lots end up with full-time jobs on graduation.

Kick-start your journalism career by checking out our prospectuses kent.ac.uk/journalism

BA Journalism
MA Multimedia Journalism

The National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ) accredited courses in newspaper, magazine, broadcast journalism and photojournalism delivered at universities, colleges and independent centres throughout the UK.

In order to achieve NCTJ accreditation for its course, each centre has to agree to adhere to a strict set of guidelines, to teach the whole of the NCTJ’s syllabus and to undergo regular inspection visits to maintain high standards.

All centres inside adhere to these guidelines, and have gained NCTJ accreditation for the courses listed. Whilst this list is regularly updated, the most up-to-date information can always be found on our website at: www.nctj.com/want-to-be-a-journalist/course-search

AT A GLANCE
If you know what type of course you want to study, the following will help you decide which centre to attend:

ACADEMIC YEAR (SEPTEMBER – JULY)

City of London College
City of Westminster College
Darlington College
Harlow College
Highbury College (in partnership with The New)
Diploma in Journalism (in partnership with The Southbank Centre)
Lambeth College
North West Regional College

DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM

City of Westminster College
City of Wolverhampton College
City of Liverpool College
City of Wolverhampton College
City of Liverpool College

MA Multimedia Journalism

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Brighton Journalist Works

FAST-TRACK (16 to 22 weeks)
Brighton journalist Werks
City of London College
Highbury College
Lambeth College
News Associates - London
News Associates - Manchester
Press Association Training - London
Sheffield College
UCFB Wembley

PART-TIME
Brighton journalist Werks
City of London College
News Associates - London
News Associates - Manchester
Press Association - London

HND
File College
Glasgow Clyde College

UNDERGRADUATE
Bournemouth University
De Montfort University
Falmouth University
Glasgow Caledonian University
Glyndŵr University
Leeds Trinity University
News Associates Manchester in partnership with University of St Mark & St John
Nottingham Trent University
Staffordshire University
Teesside University
University of Brighton
University of Essex
University of Central Lancashire
University of Gloucestershire
University of Kent
University of Lincoln
University of Portsmouth
University of Sheffield
University of Sunderland

POSTGRADUATE
Brunel University
Cardiff University
De Montfort University
Glasgow Caledonian University
Kingston University
Leeds Trinity University
Nottingham Trent University
St Mary’s University, Twickenham
Staffordshire University
Teesside University
University of Central Lancashire
University of Kent
University of Salford
University of Sheffield
University of Sunderland
University of Sussex

Full list of NCTJ accredited journalism courses for 2017/18

BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY
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BRIGHTON JOURNALIST WORKS

Sussex Innovation Centre, University of Sussex, Science Park Square, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9XB

Contact: Michael Hill, 029 2087 4084
Website: www.brightonjournalistworks.co.uk

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY

Department of Social Sciences, Media and Communications, College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences, Brunel University London, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH

Contact: Rachel Sharp, 01895 274000
Email: journalism-admissions@brunel.ac.uk
Website: www.brunel.ac.uk

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

Centre for Journalism Studies, The Bute Building, King Edward VII Avenue, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NB

Contact: Karen Pawluk-Watt, 029 2087 4084
Email: kpawluk-watt@bournemouth.ac.uk
Website: www.cardiff.ac.uk

Cardiff University - MA in Journalism

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY
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CITY OF LIVERPOOL COLLEGE

Journalism Unit, The Arts Centre, 9 Myrtle Street, Liverpool L1 7JA

Contact: Alice Gregory, 0151 252 4366
Email: Alice.Gregory@liv-coll.ac.uk
Website: www.liv-coll.ac.uk

• Fast-track Diploma in Journalism
• Academic year Diploma in Journalism
• Part-time Diploma in Journalism

CITY OF LIVERPOOL COLLEGE

COURSES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK WITH THE RELEVANT CENTRE.
We have been teaching multimedia journalism for 25 years as part of one of the biggest university media and communication faculties in Europe.

Many journalism courses offer pathways, but at BU you will do a bit of everything – it is truly interdisciplinary and multimedia. We offer a mixture of technical skills, critical thinking and journalistic skills and you will move across platforms all the time, reflecting real-world journalistic practices and enhancing your employability skills.

Our students produce live news and broadcast bulletins and are tasked with gathering news and feature stories both nationally and locally.

You will take on key roles as editors, news editors, convergence editors, and reporters on all of our media outlets, gaining invaluable knowledge and experience.

As a student journalist you are encouraged to write and broadcast your work in an environment which replicates a “real world” setting. This includes seeing your work published in the fortnightly student newspaper, The Bournemouth Rock.

In the ever-changing media landscape, core journalistic skills are at more of a premium than ever. Our courses are intensely practical, the mix of broadcasting and online writing sharpens the defining elements of cutting-edge journalism.

Bournemouth students have gone on to work at major journalism organisations in the UK, including the BBC, Sky News, Press Association, ITN Reuters and various local, regional and national newspapers and magazines. Some 95% find jobs within six months of graduating.” (“Unstats).

“Graduates are very confident that they have the multidisciplinary skills they will need in the workplace. Our teaching staff have up-to-date professional experience as journalists: our lecturers, are relevant practitioners teaching students about things they understand. We’ve been doing this for a long time, but we are not resting on our laurels at all. We are constantly looking at how we can give the best possible experience to students.”

Dr Karen Fowler-Watt, Head of School of Journalism, English & Communication

What our students and graduates say:

“We brought live general election updates throughout the night. Our coverage was unique, it had a different edge to it, it was student produced and gave a younger perspective.”

Laura McKenna, BA (Hons) Multimedia Journalism student

“Studying Multimedia Journalism helped me appreciate all the different elements of media. I learned how to use TV and Radio as well as how to be a writer and journalist. Bournemouth University definitely opens doors for you.”

Hannah Fernando, Executive Editor Timeline. Former BA (Hons) Multimedia Journalism student.

Why BU?

The BA (Hons) Multimedia Journalism course at BU was the first journalism course in the UK to be accredited by the three main professional bodies:

• The Broadcast Journalism Training Council (BJTC)
• The National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ)
• Periodicals Training Council (PTC)

We offer state-of-the-art dedicated newsrooms and digitally equipped studios which conform to a professional working environment.

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• Multimedia Sports Journalism

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Contact: (MA) Helen Aireworth, 0115 848 5803
Email: helen.aireworth@ntu.ac.uk
Website: www.ntu.ac.uk/dbj
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Email: p.w.leydon@staffs.ac.uk
Website: www.staffs.ac.uk/journalism
• BA (Hons) Journalism
• BA (Hons) Journalism (two-year)
• MA Journalism

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School of Communications, Culture and Creative Arts, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, London, TW1 4SX
Contact: Dr Daragh Minogue, 020 8240 4111
Email: daragh.minogue@smuc.ac.uk
Website: www.smuc.ac.uk/postgraduate/sports-journalism
• MA/Pgdip Sports Journalism

TeesIDE UNIVERSITY
School of Arts and Media, Middlesbrough, Tees Valley TS1 3BA
Contact: Paul Bailey, 01642 342377
Email: p.h.abbott@tees.ac.uk
Website: www.tees.ac.uk
• BA (Hons) Multimedia Journalism
• BA (Hons) Sports Journalism
• MA Journalism

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School of Arts and Media, Northwich, D3.305 Northwich Building NVRC, Sand Road, Derry, BT48 7AL
Contact: Suzanne Rodgers, 028 7127 6161
Email: susanne.rogers@mnrvc.ac.uk
Website: www.mnrvc.ac.uk
• Academic year Diploma in Journalism

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Website: www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/course/joujouub
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Contact: Tim Luckhurst, 01634 202913
Email: tluckhurst@kent.ac.uk
Website: www.kent.ac.uk
• BA (Hons) Journalism
• MA Journalism

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Website: www.ulster.ac.uk
* MA Journalism

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