

Student Council members

Molly Andruskevicius **MA Journalism, Staffordshire University**



Molly is a history graduate studying a Masters in Journalism at Staffordshire University. She is particularly interested in politics and human interest stories and would love to pursue a career in broadcast journalism.

Website: www.staffslive.co.uk

Dominic Booth **MA Newspaper Journalism, Cardiff University**



Dominic originally wanted to be a journalist because of his love for sport. In the past couple of years he has become interested in other aspects of the industry and is now pursuing a career as a reporter. He is currently enjoying the course and excited about fulfilling his ambitions after sitting the NCTJ exams.

Twitter: @DomBooth19

Samantha Booth **Diploma in Journalism, City of Wolverhampton College**



Samantha has a unique love of shorthand. Previously, she was the features editor and station manager of her university newspaper and TV station. Currently, she writes for national and local publications including The Huffington Post and *The Croydon Advertiser*. Samatha hopes to work internationally and brush up on her Mandarin skills over the next few years.

Websites: cuttings.me/users/samanthabooth and www.samanthajbooth.com
Twitter: @samanthajbooth

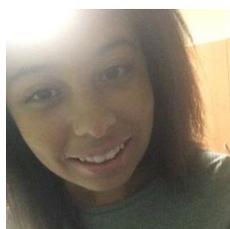
Kate Buck **BA Journalism, Brunel University**



Originally from Weymouth, Dorset, Kate moved to study at Brunel in September. She adores the course and feels each lecture reaffirms that journalism is the career for her because it offers the opportunity to inform and inspire others. Her main interests are in politics and radio journalism.

Twitter: @katebuck96 and @JournoGirls
Blogs: www.katebuck96.wordpress.com and www.journogirls.com

Nadene Chandler **BA Journalism, University of Sheffield**



Nadene is in her first year at university and has already interviewed British pop band, Scouting for Girls. To build up a varied portfolio she has volunteered at her local newsroom and produced articles for online magazines. Nadene's main aim is to become a successful travel journalist.

Blogs: keepcalmandlivelifebook.co.uk and nadenechandler1.wordpress.com
Twitter: @nadenemeatsix

Jack Cowls
Diploma in Journalism, Cornwall College



Jack is a trainee journalist with a passion for documentary and human interest stories. Rejecting university to do the course, Jack has since produced work for Vice magazine and worked with the *West Briton* newspaper. He aims to travel around Scandinavia and write about his experiences, then hopes to go on to produce documentary films.

Rebecca Cushway
Fast-track Diploma in News Journalism, Harlow College



Rebecca chose Harlow College because it is the oldest journalism school in the country with many alumni who have gone on to work for national papers. She worked in community fundraising events before deciding to have a career change. Rebecca had always wanted to be a journalist since she was young but last year decided the time was right.

Twitter: @Cushy27

Jack Duggan
MA/PgDip in Sports Journalism, St Mary's University



With his passion for live sport, Jack chose to study at St Mary's because of its excellent employability record and reputation as one of the best sports journalism training courses in the UK. He is enjoying the non-stop nature of the course, as well as the opportunities to improve through work experience. Jack wants to become a match reporter and cover the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

Twitter: @jackattack93

Website: www.sportsgazette.co.uk

Glen Durrant
BA (Hons) Sports Journalism, University of Brighton



When deciding on a career path, Glen combined two things he was good at and enjoyed: sports and writing. As his childhood dream of becoming a professional footballer faded, he decided reporting on football was the next best thing. Glen has found the course over the last three years hard but enjoyable. He would like to be a broadcast journalist.

Twitter: @glendurrant

Blog: gdurrant93.wordpress.com

Aaron Fowler
Multimedia Sports Journalism, News Associates, London



After qualifying as a physiotherapist in 2013, Aaron decided to pursue a career as a sports journalist. He is passionate about all sports but in particular disability sports. In the future, he hopes to be able to help tell the magnificent stories from these sports and increase the amount of publicity they receive. Aaron co-hosts a show on Blind Sports Radio every week.

Twitter: @aaronmjfowler

You can also follow Aaron's Guide dog Banwell on Twitter: @guidedogbanwell

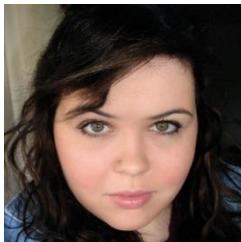
Mane Grigoryan
BA Journalism, University of Central Lancashire



Originally from Armenia, Mane was raised in Cyprus. She moved to the UK four years ago and can speak six languages. During the final year of her degree she will be doing work placements at the BBC and Sky News. Recently she won a gold award funding her own project idea to travel to South Korea, with a colleague/classmate, to film an investigatory piece on the nature of the westernisation of plastic surgery in South Korea.

Twitter: @manegrigoryan4

Genevieve Hawks
NCTJ Multimedia Journalism, Lambeth College



Genevieve chose the course because she liked how it combined the study of print, television and radio journalism. She is enjoying the course, particularly media law, and finds shorthand challenging. Genevieve has always had a keen interest in current affairs and would like to end up as a political or legal correspondent.

Emily Jennings
NCTJ Multimedia Journalism, News Associates



Emily chose the part-time course because the hours fit well with her job at Sky. She wants to be a reporter as she thinks journalism educates, informs opinion and can spark awareness for social injustices that otherwise might not be heard. Emily is interested in all aspects of the industry, from writing through to production, and is happy to be pursuing a career she can be passionate about.

Twitter: @emilyjen3105
Website: www.emilyjennings.ie

Charlotte Jones
BA Journalism, Staffordshire University



In the past year Charlotte has enjoyed exciting placements at *The Sentinel*, *The Lincolnshire Echo* and the *Wolverhampton Express and Star*. She is looking forward to covering the Boston and Skegness constituency for Sky News as part of their general election coverage.

Twitter: @Jones_1994
Website: <http://staffslive.co.uk>

James Jones
HND Practical Journalism, Fife College



The main reason James chose this course was because of his passion for current affairs and the media. He has really enjoyed learning how to find stories in the local community and then writing them up. In the future, James hopes to work in print or radio journalism covering either sport or current affairs.

Ross Kelsall
Sports Multimedia Diploma, News Associates, Manchester



Ross chose the course because News Associates were the number one ranked journalism school in the country and provided plenty of on-the-job learning opportunities. He has found the course informative and particularly enjoyed the writing opportunities with Mancunian Matters. Ross hopes to continue reporting live from sporting events and potentially move to the United States of America to cover the growth of major league soccer.

Twitter: @12thmantalking and @MM_newsonline

Sofiane Kennouche
MSc Journalism, Robert Gordon University



Sofiane has learned that each day is unique working as a journalist. He regularly blogs and writes features for supercars and motor events across the UK, with an Evo Magazine placement commencing later in 2015. The internet has given young journalists like Sofiane an opportunity to build an online presence. He is determined to gain as much experience as possible in broadcast journalism.

Car culture blog: www.motormessenger.co.uk
Supercar website: www.gtscotland.com

Naomi Livermore
BA Travel Journalism, University of Brighton



Much of Naomi's life has been centered on travel, most prominently in the year prior to starting university, where she took a solo trip around the world and crossed 15 cities in 11 months. She spends her time outside of university writing for the student paper and exploring new things but is always accompanied by a cup of coffee and a pen.

Twitter: @nammieandthings
Website: <http://www.nammielovestotravelandthings.com>

Bryn Llewelyn Lewis
Higher Certificate in Journalism, Glyndwr University



Bryn became interested in journalism after putting on events for youths in his area and once he was asked to write a piece after working with the National Theatre Wales. He looked to pursue his interests in writing and became interested in studying journalism. In the future Bryn hopes to bring innovative journalism to the industry.

Twitter: @BrynLlywelyn

Ealasaid MacAlister
HND Practical Journalism, Glasgow Clyde College



Ealasaid started writing music reviews for local websites and became attracted to the idea of pursuing journalism as a career. She enjoys writing about politics and found the Scottish independence referendum campaign a great time for starting out in political journalism. Ealasaid would like to write for a paper like *The Herald* or *The National*, or for a music magazine.

Twitter: @emacalister
Blog: <https://eala88.wordpress.com/>

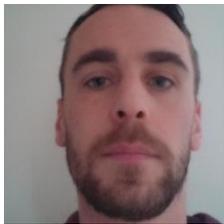
Joe Malone
Fast-track Diploma in Journalism, Sheffield College



Joe's career goal is to work in broadcast, building his way up to the role of a television news presenter. Over the past year he has been working as a freelance sports reporter for three newspapers, covering non-league football matches. Joe also enjoyed work experience at BBC Radio Derby in December, which proved valuable experience.

Twitter: @joemalone22

Kevin McGowan
NCTJ Newspaper Journalism, North West Regional College



Kevin enjoys studying in his hometown, Derry. In 2009, he spent a year in Rio doing voluntary work. He completed an access course two years ago and decided he was ready to begin the NCTJ diploma this year. Kevin is currently completing a work placement with the *Inish Times* alongside his course. After the course he is looking forward to working full-time as a journalist.

Daniel McGrath
PgDip Magazine Journalism, Sunderland University



Daniel knew he wanted to be a journalist when he was 16 after he read Leon Trotsky's reportage from the Balkan Wars 1912-13. He appreciated the irony, erudition, and bravery of that work and has longed to produce something like it since. He believes the press is the most important conduit for the most pressing subjects: politics, foreign affairs and war, and he strives to be a part of that.

Twitter: @DanielSMcGrath

Joe Nersessian
BA Multimedia Journalism, Bournemouth University



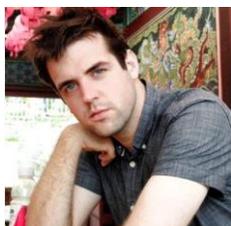
In his final year Joe has been working on a multimedia project investigating the struggle for identity that Armenians living in the UK face in light of the centennial commemoration of the Armenian genocide. He enjoys writing hard news and features, as well as bringing stories to life through creative and interactive means.

Twitter: @joenerssessionian

Website: www.joenerssessionian.co.uk

Multimedia project: www.armeniandiaspora.co.uk

Richard O'Connor
MA Journalism, University of Ulster



Richard is a former architect from Newcastle in County Down. At 29-years-old he decided to pursue a career in journalism after living overseas for nine years, including three spent in Seoul, South Korea. Richard aspires to work as a foreign correspondent and looks forward to completing his studies so he can set off travelling once more.

Chidi Ogunda
Newspaper Journalism NCTJ Diploma, Lambeth College



Chidi decided to do the NCTJ course as a way to break into the journalism industry. At 17-years-old he volunteered for his local youth magazine and became interested in writing and journalism. He thought the teachers at Lambeth were brilliant and gave him a real insight into the industry. Since finishing the course in January 2015, he intends to fulfil his ambition as a reporter on a local newspaper and work up from there.

Twitter: @chidiogundu

Chloe Oliver
Fast-track Multimedia Journalism, Highbury College



Chloe is one of 13 in a tight-knit group on the fast-track course. She is enjoying all the lessons but especially being taught by the “public affairs legend”, Dave Kett. She works freelance shifts at ITV Meridian and *The Portsmouth News* and is looking forward to doing work experience at Sky News.

Twitter: @chloe_oliver
Blog: www.chloeoliver.wordpress.com

Emma Page
BA Print Journalism, Nottingham Trent University



Emma has been elected as the course representative for the second year running. She hopes to pursue a career in the world of PR, and has secured a three-week placement with Ford Motor Company this summer. One thing she is most proud of is undertaking a work placement in France. When she was there, Emma wanted to document her time so started a blog which she regularly contributes to now.

Blog: www.mmpgonline.blogspot.co.uk.

Rebecca Piper
NCTJ Level 3 Diploma (One year – Magazine Pathway), Harlow College



Rebecca has been very passionate about writing from a young age. She chose the NCTJ diploma as it is a course that she often heard journalists “raving” about and, after some research, discovered it is highly respected. She is finding the course very helpful and feels she is gaining skills she will need. Rebecca enjoys writing about animal rights, veganism, cruelty-free lifestyle, music, fashion and beauty.

Blog: boolie-blog.blogspot.co.uk

Tom Ritchie
MA Multimedia Journalism, University of Sussex



Tom chose to do the NCTJ course to improve his skills in broadcast and print journalism. He has always been interested in telling stories, be it vocally or through text, and is enjoying his university course. In the future, Tom wants to work as a sports journalist, in particular focusing on American football.

Karl Simmonds
Diploma in Journalism, Darlington College



After graduating from Edinburgh University in 2009, Karl gained a place on the Majestic Wine's graduate programme. After five years in the wine industry he is excited to be pursuing a career in journalism. He has tried to undertake as much work experience as possible across a broad range of platforms and topics. In the future, Karl would like to work as a broadcast journalist covering sport, news or politics.

Twitter: @Karl_Simmonds

Jesse Staufenberg
Fast-track Diploma in Journalism, Brighton Journalist Works



While completing her journalism training, Jesse pushed to write for all three editors in Brighton to build extensive contacts among MPs, peer workers, professors and many others. This published work contributed to her portfolio, including a video report. Before graduating she was given a job as a business writer for the *Eastern Daily Press*.

Twitter: @StaufenbergJ

Selina Sykes
MA Journalism, Kingston University



Selina is a University of Warwick graduate from London who is fluent in French and has lived in Paris for a year.

Blogs: parisjetaime12.wordpress.com, petitepigiste.wordpress.com

LinkedIn: uk.linkedin.com/in/selinasykes

Portfolio: selinasykes.contently.com

Twitter: @Selina_Sykes

Jo Symes
One-year Diploma in Journalism, Highbury College



Originally from the Isle of Wight, Jo thinks it will be rewarding to be a journalist and share stories she uncovers. She finds working at the *Portsmouth News* alongside the course great practical experience and particularly enjoys learning media law and shorthand. In the future she would like to work in broadcast and multimedia journalism.

Twitter: @jo_lily_symes

David Taylor
MA in Print Journalism, University of Sheffield



David has always enjoyed writing and decided to channel this passion into a practical and rewarding career. As he expected, he finds the course intense but can see his writing improving each week. David hopes to explore opportunities in the travel writing industry in the future, be it as part of a newsroom or in a magazine setting, or gain experience in political journalism.

Twitter: @davidrtaylor

Alastair Ulke
BA Journalism, De Montfort University



Alastair is a second-year journalism student and sub-editor for his university newspaper, *The Demon*. Before starting the course he was a support assistant to a blind press officer in the Staffordshire County Council press office where he had daily contact with local journalists. This work encouraged him to study journalism.

Twitter: @AIUlke

Blog: <http://officeboysoffice.blogspot.co.uk/2014/02/a-suggestion-for-examining-body-of-nctj.html>

Mirela Vulaj
MA Multimedia Journalism, University of Kent



Mirela was born in Kosovo and as well as speaking fluent English, she also speaks Kosovan and German. With support from the Journalism Diversity Fund, she was able to study the NCTJ diploma. She has been a freelance journalist, photographer and film producer since 2011. Alongside her degree, Mirela completed work placements at the *Northern Echo*, BBC Radio Lincolnshire and has been interning at the *Lincolnshire Echo*. She is working towards becoming an investigative journalist and hopes to translate her photographic and filmic skills into broadcast journalism.

Stine Wannebo
BA Journalism and the News Industry, University of Kent



In her time at university, Stine has worked in everything from television to page design and loved it all. However, writing colourful and imaginative features is what she is most passionate about. Stine hopes to become a reporter as she thinks journalism is full of diversity, creativity and can make a great difference in people's lives.

Twitter: @StineWannebo

Blog: <https://definedifference.wordpress.com>

Jacob White
NCTJ Diploma in Journalism, Brighton Journalist Works



Jacob was drawn to the course because of its links with *The Argus*, Sussex's only daily newspaper. He is grateful for the doors that have been opened and his only regret is that he did not apply sooner. He hopes to secure a position in print journalism completing the National Qualification in Journalism before moving into broadcast journalism.

Twitter: @JacobMWhite

Hon Jiun Wong
MA in Journalism, Brunel University



After his journalism training, Hon hopes to become the producer of a television news programme or work on radio documentaries. He wants to be a journalist so that he can learn, be creative, educate the public and hopefully make a change.

Twitter: @hjwong

Webpage: <http://theofficedesk.wordpress.com>

Dan Wright
NCTJ Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship in Journalism with the Kent Messenger Group,
studying at Lambeth College



Dan is working as a trainee reporter for the *Whitstable Gazette*. He thinks the NCTJ apprenticeship has provided a brilliant grounding and been a superb alternative to university study. Learning through on-the-job training and tutoring at college every Friday he has gained 100 words per minute shorthand, built a strong portfolio and passed all exams to date. At 20-years-old he is delighted to be working as a full-time reporter and thinks the apprenticeship has been the perfect platform.

Twitter: @Dan_WrightKM