

# DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM

Examiners' Report

2019-20



# DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM 2019-20

During the academic year 2019-20, a total of 1291 candidates were registered on courses with the NCTJ to sit the Diploma in Journalism exams. 1138 candidates were studying on accredited courses and 153 on non-accredited courses, but may have sat NCTJ exams. Candidates also sit NCTJ Diploma in Journalism exams on National exam dates, for example students studying via distance learning.

## AWARD WINNERS (best performance in a diploma exam)

The award winners listed below have been selected from the candidates who sat Diploma in Journalism exams between November 2019 and September 2020:



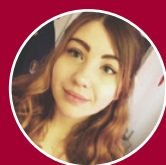
**The Archant essential journalism award**

Ellen Halliday, News Associates  
London, Fast Track February to  
July 2020 (83%)



**The ITV News broadcast journalism award**

Jacob Ottaway, University of Essex,  
BA Multimedia Journalism  
2017-20 (77%)



**The Oxford University Press essential media law award**

Melanie Rawson, University of  
Sheffield, BA Journalism  
2018-21 (98%)



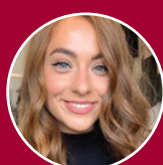
**The Facebook editing skills for journalists' award**

Hannah Voak,  
distance learner (77%)



**The JPIMedia media law: court reporting award**

Ines Fernandes Louro Santos,  
University of Sheffield,  
BA Journalism 2018-21 (98%)



**The Mark Allen Group business of magazines award**

Eve Jarvis, Glasgow Caledonian  
University, BA Multimedia  
Journalism 2020-23 (86%)



**The Oxford University Press public affairs award**

Sraddha Sabu, University of  
Sheffield, BA Journalism  
2019-22 (94%)



**The Archant videojournalism award**

Kelham Hilton, University of Salford,  
MA Journalism 2019-20 (83%)



**The Society of Editors shorthand award (100wpm)**

Calum Johnson, University of  
Salford, MA Journalism 2019-20  
(100% accuracy)



**The Premier League sports journalism award**

James Martin, PA Training, Fast Track  
August to December 2019 (74%)



**The Sky Sports News shorthand award (120wpm)**

Charlie Moloney, PA Training,  
Part Time September to July  
2018 (100% accuracy)



**The Reach journalism for a digital audience award**

Catriona Aitken, Cardiff University,  
MA Journalism 2019-20 (83%)





## PRINCIPAL EXAMINER'S SUMMARY

**To say that 2019-20 has been the most challenging of years in education and training seems an understatement. The global pandemic in 2020 led to NCTJ centres being closed from mid-March, with teaching moving online and NCTJ examinations being temporarily halted.**

The NCTJ, like other organisations, had to adapt quickly to the new circumstances and the NCTJ staff, its subject boards and accredited institutions should take credit for the innovative and flexible changes that were introduced to assessments to allow as many students as possible to complete their training and achieve the diploma qualification. That this was done so quickly, without compromising standards, was highly impressive and made possible by the goodwill and support of the NCTJ's many stakeholders.

Following a successful period of testing in April, the NCTJ introduced remote exams for all Diploma in Journalism subjects. Exams held in Cirrus have been delivered remotely using Proctorio, a secure proctoring software. Offline exams (exams sat outside of Cirrus) have been delivered remotely via Zoom, using online invigilation. Shorthand exams, which are comprised of an exam dictation delivered outside of Cirrus and a transcription delivered in Cirrus, have been delivered remotely using a combination of Zoom and Proctorio.

The platforms and procedures the NCTJ has put in place for remote delivery protect the integrity of the assessments and the reliability and validity of the assessment results, whilst giving candidates a much needed opportunity to achieve their qualification

without further delay. Assessing students this way presents challenges to both centres and candidates but has generally been very successful and well-received.

There were fewer sittings across all subjects in 2019-20 compared to the previous year, mainly due to the COVID pandemic, with some candidates and centres choosing to defer their entries until 2020-21. However, standards appear to be unaffected by this, with the proportion of candidates attaining a 'gold standard' A-C pass in most subjects remaining very similar to the previous year. In some subjects, such as essential media law, videojournalism, public affairs and practical magazine journalism, there were notable increases in the pass rate.

As the NCTJ continues to diversify the subjects offered to students across the diploma, it is pleasing to see an impressive uptake for new units like journalism for a digital audience as the NCTJ ensures that students are fully equipped to take advantage of new employment opportunities in journalism, as well as consolidating essential skills and knowledge.

It's important to conclude by thanking the chief examiners and their colleagues on each of the exam boards for their hard work in what proved to be the most demanding year of many people's professional lives. It is particularly gratifying that NCTJ examiners remain dedicated to ensuring that NCTJ training remains current and the diploma continues to effectively prepare students for the world of work.

**Amanda Ball**  
**NCTJ principal examiner**

# ESSENTIAL JOURNALISM

The nine sittings for the essential journalism exam scheduled in 2019-20 became ten with extra dates added in August and September following the cancellation of the April exam. It is pleasing to see that overall passes at gold standard were almost identical in 2019-20 at 53 per cent, compared with 54 per cent the previous year. Out of these gold standard passes, 4 per cent were at A grade, up from 3 per cent the previous year, while B and C grades were at 14 per cent and 35 per cent, compared to 17 per cent and 33 per cent in 2018-19.

The total number of exam sittings for essential journalism decreased in 2019-20 (to 1233 sittings from 1439 in 2018-19) which is not surprising considering the circumstances facing candidates as a result of the pandemic between late March and September 2020.

Several new markers joined the essential journalism examination team in 2019-20 and the exam setters strived to ensure that the exam scenarios presented interesting and realistic, as well as appropriate, challenges to candidates while the basic framework of the exam remained consistent. It is a tribute to the focus and hard work of candidates and the marking team that pass rates were so similar to previous years despite the unprecedented disruption to education and so many aspects of everyday life caused by the pandemic.

Essential top tips for tutors and the programme of study have been updated to reflected the ever-changing world of 21st century journalism and emphasise that core skills like accuracy, clarity and use of concise and compelling language are as important, if not more important, than ever. My thanks again to markers and the NCTJ staff for their dedication, consistency and maintenance of high standards during an exceptional year.

**Nick Nunn**  
Chief examiner, essential journalism

# ESSENTIAL JOURNALISM E-PORTFOLIO

It has been a difficult year for all candidates who have had to work under extraordinary circumstances with the Covid-19 pandemic. This was reflected in the e-portfolio by the creation of temporary arrangements put in place in April that allowed interviews to be done by video calls rather than face-to-face and saw the suspension of the mobile journalism category.

Despite the changes in circumstances and in the guidelines to reflect this, candidates have achieved excellent results in this module this year, with 94 per cent achieving gold standard in 2019-20 compared to 91 per cent in 2018-19.

Markers have consistently marked to a high standard, offering excellent feedback to candidates where applicable, and rewarding those candidates who have sourced and researched their own stories rather than relying on class material.

The pandemic proved a solid source of material for candidates in the absence of other news stories as the country was locked down, examples of which include those who have created their own data stories from coronavirus figures and have shot videos in their own homes.

**Clare Gladstone**  
Chief moderator, essential journalism e-portfolio





## ESSENTIAL JOURNALISM ETHICS AND REGULATION

It was satisfying to see that the improvements registered in the newspaper magazine regulation test in 2018-19 were maintained in the last year. The exam saw 75 per cent achieve the gold standard of A-C grades – a slight increase from 74 per cent in 2018-19 – while the percentage of those achieving A-E grades remained the same at 96 per cent. Out of the 972 candidates who sat the exam in 2019-20, 162 (17 per cent) achieved an A grade.

**John Wilson**  
Chief examiner, essential journalism ethics and regulation



## ESSENTIAL MEDIA LAW & REGULATION AND MEDIA LAW COURT REPORTING

The coronavirus pandemic meant that – in common with other NCTJ exams – the dates of some media law exam sittings had to be changed, that tutors and many candidates had from late March 2020 to adapt to online teaching, and that candidates who from that time had to complete studies at home did not have the full study benefit of meeting each other and tutors in the classroom or lecture theatre.

Nevertheless, for the 2019-20 academic year the gold standard pass rate for the essential media law exam rose to 72 per cent (from 65 per cent in the previous year) and the A-E grade pass rate rose to 93 per cent, compared to 89 per cent in the previous year. For the court reporting exam, there was an increase in the gold standard pass rate to 71 per cent (up from 66 per cent in the previous year) and the A-E grade pass rate was 94 per cent (up from 90 per cent in the previous year). These year-on-year fluctuations do not cause concern, because of their limited range and because these pass rates do not differ greatly from, or are identical to, pass rates seen in recent years.

The media law examinations board has considered whether pass rates in the period from late March differed to those from exams taken earlier in the year, and does not see any pattern causing concern. The board is of the view that candidates, tutors and the media law examination system proved resilient in the face of the pandemic's disruptions, and we pay tribute to NCTJ staff for their fast and flexible reaction in changing exam dates and arrangements to cope with the pandemic's effect.

The numbers sitting the essential media law exam in 2019-20 fell by 203 to 1140 compared to the previous year, and the numbers sitting the court reporting exam fell by 236 to 895. These totals include re-sits.

The overall results suggest that, as in previous years, the two exams set the same level of challenge for candidates, and I am of the view that each exam was of an appropriate level of challenge, consistent with the others set by the board for the year. As is the case for most years, new topics – reflecting changes in media law and regulatory environments – figured in the programmes of study and the exams, to ensure their content was up-to-date.

**Mark Hanna**  
Chief examiner, essential media law & regulation and media law court reporting

# PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**It is encouraging to see the pass rate for public affairs improve in 2019-20, with 79 per cent of candidates achieving grades A-C and 97 per cent attaining an A-E grade.**

Although public affairs is an optional unit on the diploma, it remains a popular choice for many NCTJ centres. 824 candidates sat the assessment in 2019-20, which is fewer than the number of entries in 2018-19 and is likely due to the global pandemic.

The domestic political landscape has been dominated by Brexit in the past four years, but the UK's departure from the EU meant that this subject is no longer examined in detail, although candidates continue to be tested on their knowledge of issues related to Brexit. Even though a post-Brexit trade deal has finally been concluded, it may still remain a live issue for some time to come!

The public affairs board strives to set bespoke exams which are as current as possible and reflect topical areas of interest and importance to journalists. Covid-19, for example, has demonstrated the need for journalists to have a broad understanding of political issues as diverse as metro mayors, adult social care, devolution and the budget deficit.

The public affairs programme of study and assessment will continue to reflect current practice and the public affairs board works with tutors and draws on relevant experience to ensure that this module prepares students for the workplace with its emphasis on the journalistic application of public affairs knowledge.

**Amanda Ball**  
Chief examiner, public affairs

# SHORTHAND

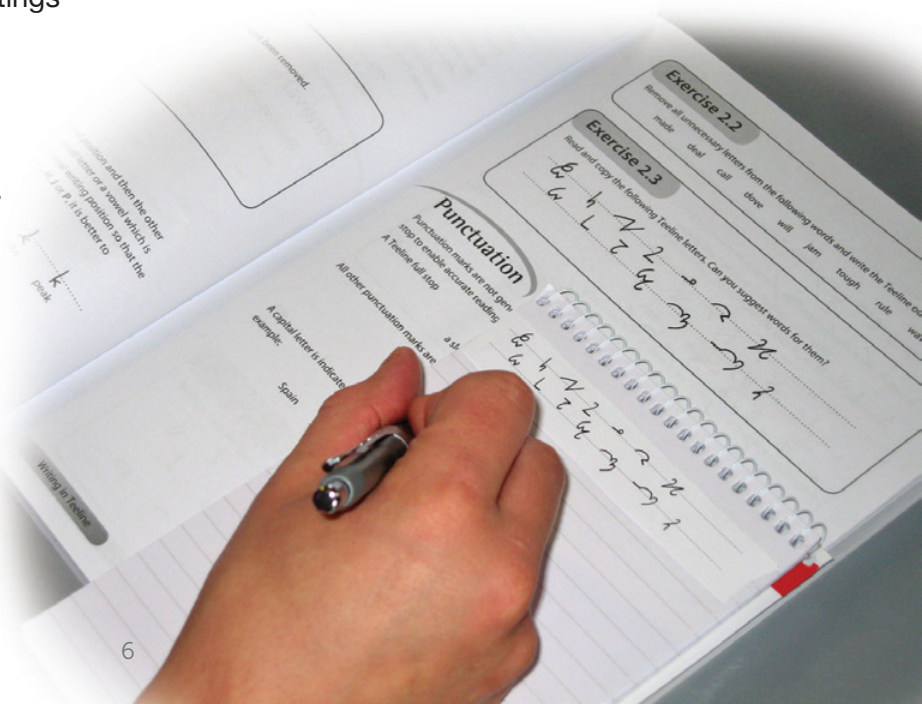
**Shorthand exams continue to be offered at speeds from 60wpm to 80wpm and at 100wpm to 120wpm. This year saw the introduction of remote shorthand exams across all speeds in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.**

Despite the provision of additional exam dates to replace those cancelled due to Covid-19, there were fewer exams taken overall. In 2019-20 there were 2540 shorthand exam sittings compared to 3664 sittings in 2018-19. This is a decrease of 1124 sittings. There was a decrease of sittings at all speeds except 120wpm where the sittings increased by 15.

The overall pass rate was 31 per cent compared to 33 per cent the previous year. The pass rate at individual speeds has increased at 70wpm, 80wpm and 110wpm. It has decreased at 60wpm and 120wpm. It has remained the same at 100wpm. The overall pass rate for remote shorthand exams was 32 per cent compared to 30 per cent for in-centre sittings.

The shorthand board continues to advise tutors to enter candidates for exams only when they are ready. It is good practice for tutors to hold mock exams in order to determine the speed at which candidates are competent and confident. We want candidates to be as well prepared as possible so that they achieve a positive outcome in the exams.

**Karen Ballam**  
Chief examiner, shorthand





# EDITING SKILLS FOR JOURNALISTS

This year has been particularly challenging for candidates studying the editing skills for journalists' module. As the Covid-19 lockdown forced many NCTJ centres to switch their teaching online it became difficult to provide the appropriate software (i.e. InDesign etc.) for students to use on their own laptops at home. There were also logistical hurdles around the hard copy proofing element of the exam which had to be moved on-screen.

All scheduled exam dates for the editing skills module went ahead in 2019-20, but there was an impact on entrant numbers as a result of the pandemic and courses offering alternative elective modules, such as journalism for a digital audience and practical magazine journalism. The steady level of candidates at around 700 for the previous two years dropped to 277 in 2019-20, although the 63 per cent success rate at gold standard (A-C grades) was similar to 2018-19 (71 per cent).

An in-depth review of the module in the past year has led to a number of changes for 2020-21. Core skills of editing copy and headline writing remain at its heart, but the hard copy proofing section has now been dropped (although at the request of many centres there are a number of previous exams in this section available to tutors as a teaching resource).

The greater emphasis on web editing and headline writing introduced two years ago is now firmly embedded and additional picture cropping assessments have now been introduced. The name of the module has also been changed (from production journalism to editing skills for journalists) to reflect the current fast-moving digital deadline environment.

**John Dilley**

**Chief examiner, editing skills for journalists**

# SPORTS JOURNALISM

The NCTJ sports journalism module saw reduced sittings of 117 in 2019-20 due to the impact of Covid-19. This was a decrease of 103 candidates on the previous year's total of 220.

A slightly higher percentage of candidates (72 per cent) achieved gold standard in 2019-20 compared to 70 per cent the previous year. The A-E pass rate was 96 per cent, slightly down from 99 per cent in 2018-19.

Six examination sittings took place throughout the year, including an additional exam in September.

With the gold standard, there were small decreases in the percentage of students achieving A and B grades with more candidates achieving grade C. Grade A stood at 10 per cent (compared to 16 per cent in 2018-19), grade B recorded 21 per cent (compared to 25 per cent in 2018-19) and grade C increased to 41 per cent (from 29 per cent in 2018-19). There was little change in the other A-E pass categories with grade D recording 3 per cent in 2019-20, compared to 5 per cent the previous year, and grade E recording 4 per cent in 2019-20, compared to 1 per cent the previous year.

The sports journalism exam took place on the Cirrus online assessment platform for the second year running in 2019-20. Remote exams were introduced in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, with the match video being embedded on the Cirrus platform. Sky Sports continues to support the NCTJ by providing the game footage. The match report in part 1 of the exam now includes women's as well as men's football, with the January 2020 exam (SJ64) featuring England Lionesses against Portugal.

Other changes that took place in 2019-20 included the part 2 question 1 now always being a preview piece rather than a round-up to ensure that the sports story cycle was comprehensively and consistently covered in the examination format. A new data question was introduced for part 2 question 4 and 5 instead of the press release exercise, in response to industry comments that encouraged further digital journalism elements. Feedback on these changes from centres in the NCTJ sports journalism workshop, held in October 2020, was very positive.

**Simon McEnnis**

**Chief examiner, sports journalism**



# VIDEOJOURNALISM FOR DIGITAL PLATFORMS

**This academic year proved deeply challenging for video producers in our industry. Repeated lockdowns and the need for Covid-safe working resulted in dramatic changes in working practices.**

Tutors and students rose to the occasion, showing determination and resourcefulness in the most difficult circumstances. Candidates demonstrated ingenuity and creativity, learning online, making video content from their bedrooms and taking remote exams for the first time.

Making video is a gregarious, collaborative process and many of us were understandably sceptical about teaching and assessing remotely. Yet, thanks to the hard work and flexibility of the NCTJ team and all our amazing centres, we have made it work. I applaud their achievements.

Remarkably, there was only a very small drop in the number of videojournalism exams taken this year, down by just 4 percentage points. The proportion of gold standard passes was significantly higher. There has been a similar increase in gold standard passes in other modules and we will continue to monitor the trend.

From 2020-21 videojournalism for online becomes videojournalism for digital platforms. Reflecting changes in industry practices, the programme of study requires more social media production and hopefully offers the flexibility to allow candidates to have fun and be creative, as well as learn the foundations of our practice.



Next year will be another challenging one for all of us and it looks likely we will be working remotely for some time to come. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to support journalism students over the past year. The results speak for themselves.

**Vanessa Edwards**  
Chief examiner, videojournalism for digital platforms

## BUSINESS OF MAGAZINES

**The number of business of magazines exam sittings has fallen to 55 in 2019-20, compared to 100 for 2018-19, but the number of candidates achieving gold standard has remained fairly consistent – 89 per cent in 2019-20 compared to 84 per cent the previous year. The number of candidates passing the module with A-E grades has also remained consistent – 98 per cent on 2019-20 compared with 97 per cent in 2018-19.**

The exam is designed to ensure candidates make solid references to magazines they have studied in some detail and demonstrate knowledge of a range of magazine types. The three questions test candidates' knowledge across the magazine sector, requiring them to carry out a SWOT analysis, focus on launches and relaunches, compare B2B and consumer titles, look at marketing and advertising, and focus on the future of magazines and associated multimedia. The exam was run remotely for the first time in May 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.



The business of magazines module will be withdrawn from the diploma from September 2021 for new registrations, following an industry-wide review of the elective modules for the qualification. Candidates will have until 1 September 2023 to pass the unit assessment and achieve the Diploma in Journalism qualification with the business of magazines module.

**Claire Pitcher**  
Senior examiner, business of magazines



# BUSINESS AND FINANCE JOURNALISM

**The business and finance syllabus saw 13 candidates sitting the exam in 2019-20.**

Twelve out of 13 candidates received grades within the A-C range, which is equivalent to 92 per cent achieving the 'gold' standard pass rate, a small increase on the 88 per cent achieved in the previous year. Of those within the A-C range, one achieved a grade A and seven achieved a grade B, which represents the strongest performances since this syllabus began. However, it should be noted that the numbers of candidates in all years have been too small for any meaningful comparisons.

All candidates sitting this exam have done so on a distance-learning basis, with a minimal level of virtual tutor support taken up by just a handful of students. It's therefore encouraging to see consistently high pass rates, although disappointing that to date no centre delivering NCTJ-approved training has chosen to deliver this module.

The transition of the module exam to Cirrus caused an initial change to the examination format, but NCTJ staff responded quickly, efficiently and in partnership with the examiner to make sure this had no impact on the final assessments.

The way the exam is structured so it can be run remotely in the wake of Covid-19 has necessitated some changes to the evolving business news scenario question. I will be reviewing this element of the exam next year.

**Steve Dyson**  
Chief examiner, business and finance journalism

# BROADCAST JOURNALISM

**Centres and students responded creatively to the unprecedented challenge posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.**

Broadcast regulation was delivered remotely on Cirrus and Proctorio which was very effective. Broadcast radio and TV news were delivered remotely via Zoom. Feedback to the remote exam format from a sample of students and invigilators surveyed was overall very positive.

There was a slight increase in the number of exams taken in 2019-20, with 253 sittings across the three disciplines – TV news, radio news and broadcast regulation – compared with 246 sittings in the previous year.

The proportion of gold standard and A-E passes was broadly unchanged on the previous year – credit for which must be given to students and centres operating under the challenging circumstances caused by the pandemic.

**Catherine Houlihan**  
Chief examiner, broadcast journalism



# PHOTOGRAPHY FOR JOURNALISTS



39 candidates achieved the gold standard pass rate of grades A-C which is equivalent to 78 per cent. This is 5 percentage points better than the previous year when 73 per cent of candidates achieved the gold standard pass rate. This is pleasing given the challenging conditions and changes that had to be made this year due to Covid-19.

The photography module is designed to equip candidates with the skills required to produce images of publishable quality that meet industry standards. I saw an increase of in the use of people in the photographs to help illustrate subjects which is pleasing. Some candidates, however, failed to submit captions of a sufficient quality.

It is important for journalists to understand photographic practice and media law and ethics relating to the publication of images. Submissions largely took into account this in their submissions.

**Steve Phillips**  
Chief examiner, photography for journalists

## PR & COMMUNICATIONS FOR JOURNALISTS / INTRODUCTION TO PR FOR JOURNALISTS

**The PR modules were introduced to the diploma elective options in 2018-19. PR & communications for journalists (double module) has largely been taken by students on the NCTJ distance learning course and has been very successful. While the number of candidates taking the double module understandably dropped a little in 2019-20 as a result of the pandemic, the pass rate increased significantly, with 79 per cent passing at gold standard (up from 60 per cent in 2018-19) and 95 per cent passing at A-E (up from 84 per cent in 2018-19).**

Introduction to public relations for journalists (single module) has been taken by a small number of centres. Again, there was a small drop in the number of candidates taking the exam and, disappointingly, there was also a fall in the pass rate, with only 33 per cent achieving the gold standard. There was a marginal improvement in those passing at A-E, up from 88 to 89 per cent in 2019-20.

Unfortunately, it proved impossible to arrange a workshop for tutors during 2019-20 as a result of Covid-19. However, the chief examiner has been available to support NCTJ centres directly with advice on staffing and the delivery of courses.

**Chris Rushton**  
Chief examiner, PR & communications for journalists and introduction to PR for journalists







## PRACTICAL MAGAZINE JOURNALISM

Despite the challenges of the coronavirus lockdown, candidate numbers for the practical magazine journalism assessment doubled in 2019-20 to 69 (up from 32 in the previous year). The gold standard pass rate (A-C grades) increased to 87 per cent this year, compared to 73 per cent in 2018-19.

The assessment – which is run under newsroom rather than exam conditions – remained the same during lockdown. Candidates develop their own feature idea and conduct an in-depth interview as part of coursework prior to a six-hour ‘magazine day’ assessment. Candidates write and publish online a 1,000-word feature, together with self-generated photography, video and social media promotion.

The coronavirus pandemic necessitated only one change to the assessment format to allow it to be delivered remotely – candidates were allowed to conduct their primary interview by conferencing platform (i.e. Zoom, Skype etc.) instead of being physically in the same room.

The assessment itself and the timings will remain the same for 2020-21. However, following feedback from tutors and candidates a number of adjustments have been made to the weighting of marks to put greater emphasis on interviewing and writing skills:

- **Concept report:** 20 marks now available instead of 40.
- **Interviewing:** 30 marks now available instead of 20.
- **Feature writing:** 80 marks now available instead of 60.

- **Headline and standfirst:** 10 marks available instead of 20. Marks for editing are now assessed in the feature writing section rather than with the heads and sells. The heads and sells section is now called headline and standfirst.
- **Photography, video and social media:** remain the same – at 20 marks each.

**John Dille**

**Chief examiner, practical magazine journalism**

## JOURNALISM FOR A DIGITAL AUDIENCE

The 2019-20 academic year saw the introduction of this new elective module which focuses on digital journalism skills. The number of exam sittings was 253. Its debut sees a 96 per cent pass rate with 82 per cent achieving the gold standard.

Since the first of four exam sittings in January 2020 the team behind the module have fine-tuned the assessments and marking criteria to ensure it is industry-standard and as practical as possible. Marking workshops have been provided to tutors delivering the module. We continue to support centres to ensure consistent delivery has been achieved through the inevitable growing pains.

My thanks go to all examiners, markers, moderators and indeed candidates involved in the creation and ongoing development of this exciting digital journalism module.

**Gavin Allen**

**Chief examiner, journalism for a digital audience**

# COMPARATIVE FIGURES

## Diploma in Journalism (exam sittings) results summary 2019-20

Exam	No. of Sittings	Gold Standard		A-E pass rate	
Essential Journalism	1233	654	53%	1193	97%
Newspaper Magazine Regulation Test	972	729	75%	935	96%
Essential Media Law & Regulation	1140	821	72%	1062	93%
Court Reporting	895	635	71%	839	94%
Public Affairs	824	647	79%	797	97%
Sports Journalism	117	84	72%	112	96%
Production Journalism	277	174	63%	272	98%
Business of Magazines	55	49	89%	54	98%
Videojournalism	287	247	86%	282	98%
Business & Finance	13	12	92%	13	100%
PR & Communications for Journalists	19	15	79%	18	95%
Intro to PR for Journalists	27	9	33%	24	89%
Journalism for a Digital Audience	253	207	82%	244	96%
Practical Magazine Journalism	69	60	87%	67	97%
TV Journalism	3	2	67%	3	100%
Radio Journalism	1	1	100%	1	100%
Broadcast Journalism – TV News	61	51	84%	61	100%
Broadcast Journalism – Radio News	87	71	82%	82	94%
Broadcast Journalism – Regulation	98	82	84%	98	100%
<b>Total no. of exam sittings</b>	<b>6431</b>				

With the exception of the Introduction to PR for Journalists module, over half of the exams marked in each module have been awarded the industry gold standard of an A-C grade, with the overall majority achieving an E grade or above. In 2019-20, 71 per cent of candidates achieved the gold standard compared with 66 per cent in 2018-19. Ninety-six per cent of candidates achieved A-E grades in 2019-20, compared with 94 per cent in 2018-19.

## Diploma in Journalism (assessments) results summary 2019-20

	Number of sittings	Gold Standard		A-E pass rate	
E-Portfolio Submissions	766	729	94%	771	99%
Broadcast Coursework Submissions	49	46	94%	48	98%
Photography for Journalists E-Portfolio	50	39	78%	48	96%
<b>Total no. of other assessments</b>	<b>875</b>				

In the 2019-20 academic year, 776 e-portfolios have been submitted for assessment. Of these submissions, 94 per cent were awarded the industry gold standard of an A-C grade

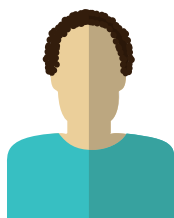


## Shorthand exams results summary 2019-20

A total of 2540 shorthand examinations have been sat (including resits) compared to 3664 exams in 2018-19, a decrease of 1124 exams. The achievement figures for the year have been tabled below.

Speed wpm	Number of sittings	Number of passes	Pass rate
60	879	357	41%
70	4	1	25%
80	419	135	32%
100	1167	280	24%
110	62	13	21%
120	9	3	33%
<b>Total no. of exam sittings</b>	<b>2540</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>31%</b>

In 2019-20, 24 per cent achieved 100wpm, which is the same as the pass rate in 2018-19. Overall, the percentage pass rate for students achieving a shorthand speed of 60wpm or over decreased by two percentage points from 33 per cent to 31 per cent.



**TOTAL DIPLOMA EXAMS & ASSESSMENTS IN 2019-20:**

**9,846**



## DIPLOMA EXAM RESULTS COMPARISON 2018-19 AND 2019-20

Exam	Number of sittings 2018-19	Gold Standard 2018-19	A-E pass rate 2018-19	Number of sittings 2019-20	Gold Standard 2019-20	A-E pass rate 2019-20	Difference in no. of sittings
Essential Journalism	1439	54%	98%	1233	53%	97%	-206
Newspaper Magazine Regulation Test	1330	74%	96%	972	75%	96%	-358
Public Affairs	1264	64%	91%	824	79%	97%	-440
Essential Media Law & Regulation	1343	65%	89%	1140	72%	93%	-203
Court Reporting	1131	66%	90%	895	71%	94%	-236
Sports Journalism	220	70%	99%	117	72%	96%	-103
Editing Skills for Journalists	716	71%	99%	277	63%	98%	-439
Business of Magazines	100	84%	97%	55	89%	98%	-45
Videojournalism	299	72%	93%	287	86%	98%	-12
Business & Finance	8	88%	100%	13	92%	100%	+5
PR & Communications for Journalists	25	60%	84%	19	79%	95%	-6
Intro to PR for Journalists	32	38%	88%	27	33%	89%	-5
Practical Magazine Journalism	32	75%	100%	69	87%	97%	+37
Journalism for a Digital Audience	0	0	0	253	82%	96%	+253
TV Journalism	0	0	0	3	67%	100%	+3
Radio Journalism	0	0	0	1	100%	100%	+1
Broadcast Journalism – TV News	76	86%	100%	61	84%	100%	-15
Broadcast Journalism – Radio News	73	85%	93%	87	82%	94%	+14
Broadcast Journalism – Regulation	104	79%	100%	98	84%	100%	-6
<b>Total</b>	<b>8192</b>			<b>6431</b>			<b>-1761</b>



## DIPLOMA ASSESSMENT RESULTS COMPARISON 2018-19 AND 2019-20

Assessment	Number of sittings 2018-19	Gold Standard 2018-19	A-E pass rate 2018-19	Number of sittings 2019-20	Gold Standard 2019-20	A-E pass rate 2019-20	Difference in no. of sittings
E-Portfolio	931	91%	98%	776	94%	99%	-155
Broadcast Coursework	59	83%	95%	49	94%	98%	-10
Photography E-Portfolio	59	73%	100%	50	78%	96%	-9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1049</b>			<b>875</b>			<b>-174</b>

## SHORTHAND EXAM RESULTS COMPARISON 2018-19 AND 2019-20

Speed	Number of sittings 2018-19	Pass rate 2018-19	Number of sittings 2019-20	Pass rate 2019-20	Difference in no. of sittings
60wpm	1393	38%	879	41%	-514
70wpm	67	36%	4	25%	-63
80wpm	721	40%	419	32%	-302
100wpm	1378	24%	1167	24%	-211
110wpm	79	24%	62	21%	-17
120wpm	26	15%	9	33%	-17
<b>Total</b>	<b>3664</b>		<b>2540</b>		<b>-1124</b>



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The New Granary, Station Road, Newport,  
Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3PL

Tel: 01799 544014

Email: [info@nctj.com](mailto:info@nctj.com)