



**1. Programme/Pathway Title(s) and UCAS code(s):**

BA Journalism (P500)

BA Journalism with a Year Abroad\*

\*students may only enter these programmes by transferring at the end of Year 1

**2. Awarding body or institution:**

University of Leicester

**3. a) Mode of study**

Full-time and part-time

**b) Type of study**

Campus Based

**4. Registration periods:**

The normal period of registration is three years

The maximum period of registration is five years

Year Abroad

The normal period of registration is four years

The maximum period of registration is six years

Part Time:

The normal period of registration is 4 years part-time

The maximum period of registration is 7 years part-time

**5. Typical entry requirements:**

**A Level** – BBB in relevant subjects, eg Media, English, History, Politics etc

**GCSE:** B in English Language

**Access to HE Diploma:** Pass relevant diploma with some credits at distinction.

**European Baccalaureate:** Pass with 77% overall.

**International Baccalaureate:** Pass Diploma with 30 points.

**Cambridge Pre-U:** D3/M2/M2 in Principal Subjects.

**Leicestershire Progression Accord:** BBB plus full Accord Credits

**BTEC Nationals:** Full Diploma with DMM.

**Other Qualifications:** Other national and international qualifications welcomed.

Mature students welcomed

Alternative qualifications considered.

**6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:**

Access course considered as equivalent to traditional routes.

## 7. Programme aims:

The BA Journalism programme aims to:

- equip students with a demonstrable, critical understanding of the key concepts, theories and debates around Journalism
- help students develop the key professional skills utilised by journalists
- enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of transferable skills necessary for successful career development and a lifetime of effective independent learning
- facilitate student enquiry and development of knowledge of the global context in which journalism operates.

For those on the Year Abroad:

- provide an opportunity for Leicester students to spend their third year abroad, studying at a partner institution in Europe as part of the European Erasmus framework exchange programme or a partner institution on another continent as part of the Study Abroad exchange programme;
- develop study skills in another university following a guided programme of learning for the period spent abroad;
- provide an opportunity for exchange students from partner institutions in another country to study in the United Kingdom;
- provide and build on links between the University of Leicester and its partner institutions
- develop an appreciation of the different approaches to the study of media and communication adopted by different types of scholars.

## 8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- [QAA Benchmarking Statement for Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies 2016](#)
- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ)
- [University of Leicester Learning and Teaching Strategy 2016-2020](#)
- University of Leicester Employability Strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Reports
- National Student Survey
- First Destinations Data
- Graduate Survey
- Broad aims of industry accreditation bodies, especially the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ) [www.nctj.com](http://www.nctj.com) and the Broadcast Journalism Training Council (BJTC) [www.bjtc.org.uk](http://www.bjtc.org.uk)
- Aims, objectives and standards laid down by various professional regulatory bodies, especially the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) <https://www.ipso.co.uk/editors-code-of-practice/> And the Professional Code of the Office of the Communications Regulator Ofcom <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/broadcast-codes/broadcast-code>

9. Programme Outcomes: BA Journalism Single Honours

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b><i>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</i></b>		
<b>(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge</b>		
<p>Critically reflect on news and journalism as a concept, its professional production and application, and key concepts in contemporary academic debates about journalistic practice</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio, essays (1000)</p>
<p>Develop and demonstrate the acquisition of the professional skills and attributes needed to produce original journalistic material to a standard acceptable for publication</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (1000)</p>
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- theories and approaches to the study of journalism</li> <li>- the history and development of the news media</li> <li>- the development of journalism as an occupation</li> <li>- contemporary debates about the news industry and its future</li> </ul>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio, essays (2010)</p>
<p>[Year abroad] Acquire knowledge of different debates and schools of thought in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand</p>		

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques</b>		
<p>Critically reflect on news and journalism as a concept, its professional production and application, and key concepts in contemporary academic debates about journalistic practice</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (1003)</p>
<p>Critically reflect on the place of digital and social media in the 21st century media ecosystem, and apply this knowledge to a professional standard in practice</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio, Essays (1001, 2000)</p>
<p>Investigate and demonstrate the core concepts and skills involved in publication design</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (3001, 3002)</p>
<p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio, group presentation (1002)</p>
<p>Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (2000)</p>
<p>[Year Abroad] Understand and explain the complex role of media and communication within more specific social contexts in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand</p>		

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(iii) Critical analysis of key issues</b>		
<p>Critically reflect on news and journalism as a concept, its professional production and application, and key concepts in contemporary academic debates about journalistic practice</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio, essays (1000, 10001)</p>
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- theories and approaches to the study of journalism</li> <li>- the history and development of the news media</li> <li>- the development of journalism as an occupation</li> <li>- contemporary debates about the news industry and its future</li> </ul>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (2010)</p>
<p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p>	<p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p>	<p>Essays, portfolio, group (1002) presentation</p>
<p>[Year abroad] Demonstrate the ability to analyse media and communication processes and structures through different cultural contexts, political and social structures.</p>		

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material</b>		
Recognise, describe, produce and write a variety of news formats to professional standard	Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio (1000, 1003, 2001)
Develop and demonstrate the acquisition of the professional skills and attributes needed to produce original journalistic material to a standard acceptable for publication	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio, essay (1000, 1003, 2001)
Demonstrate knowledge of: - theories and approaches to the study of journalism - the history and development of the news media - the development of journalism as an occupation - contemporary debates about the news industry and its future	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio (1XXX, 2XXX, 2010)
Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio (1002)
Plan, conduct and report on an independent research project; conduct a review of literature relevant to their project; demonstrate the use of appropriate theory, method and empirical analysis; show evidence of critical analysis and reflection in their investigation	Tutorials, independent study, lectures.	Investigation (3000)
<b>(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight</b>		
Critically reflect on news and journalism as a concept, its professional production and application, and key concepts in contemporary academic debates about journalistic practice	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio, essays (1000, 10001, 1002)
Critically reflect on the place of digital and social media in the 21st century media ecosystem, and apply this knowledge to a professional standard in practice	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio, essays (1001, 2000)
Describe and evaluate recent research on news and journalism	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Essays (1001, 2010, 2XXX)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(vi) Other discipline specific competencies</b>		
<p>Investigate and demonstrate the core concepts and skills involved in publication design</p> <p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p> <p>Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Demonstrate inter-cultural awareness and understanding</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p> <p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p> <p>Workshops tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p>	<p>Portfolios, essays, group presentations. (3001, 3002)</p> <p>Portfolio (1002, 3002)</p> <p>Portfolio (2000)</p>
<b>(b) Transferable skills</b>		
<b>(i) Oral communication</b>		
<p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p> <p>Develop existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to assume significant responsibility within organisations</p>	<p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning</p> <p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p>	<p>Portfolios, essays, group presentations. (1002)</p> <p>Group presentations, portfolios (3001)</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(ii) Written communication</b>		
<p>Recognise, describe, produce and write a variety of news formats to professional standard</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (1000, 1003)</p>
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- theories and approaches to the study of journalism</li> <li>- the history and development of the news media</li> <li>- the development of journalism as an occupation</li> <li>- contemporary debates about the news industry and its future</li> </ul>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (1001, 2010)</p>
<p>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing)</li> <li>- word processing and presentation</li> <li>- analysis and critical evaluation</li> <li>- time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines)</li> </ul>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (1001, 2010)</p>
<p>Plan, conduct and report on an independent research project; conduct a review of literature relevant to their project; demonstrate the use of appropriate theory, method and empirical analysis; show evidence of critical analysis and reflection in their investigation.</p>	<p>Tutorials, independent study, lectures.</p>	<p>Investigation. (3000)</p>
<b>(iii) Information technology</b>		



<p>Critically reflect on the place of digital and social media in the 21st century media ecosystem, and apply this knowledge to a professional standard in practice</p> <p>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing)</li> <li>- word processing and presentation</li> <li>- analysis and critical evaluation</li> <li>- time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines)</li> </ul>	<p>Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p> <p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (1001, 2000)</p> <p>Essays (1001, 2010)</p>
<b>(iv) Numeracy</b>		
<p>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing)</li> <li>- word processing and presentation</li> <li>- analysis and critical evaluation</li> <li>- time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines)</li> </ul> <p>Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p> <p>Workshops tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p>	<p>Essays (2010)</p> <p>Portfolio (2000)</p>
<b>(v) Team working</b>		
<p>Investigate and demonstrate the core concepts and skills involved in publication design</p> <p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p> <p>Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise</p> <p>Develop existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to assume significant responsibility within organisations</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p> <p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p> <p>Workshops tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p> <p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (3001, 3002)</p> <p>Portfolios, essays, group presentations. (1002)</p> <p>Portfolio (2000)</p> <p>Group presentations, portfolios (3001. 3002)</p>

**(vi) Problem solving**

<p>Investigate and demonstrate the core concepts and skills involved in publication design</p>	<p>Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Portfolio (3001)</p>
<p>Describe and evaluate recent research on news and journalism</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (1001, 2010, 2XXX)</p>
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- theories and approaches to the study of journalism</li><li>- the history and development of the news media</li><li>- the development of journalism as an occupation</li><li>- contemporary debates about the news industry and its future</li></ul>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (1XXX, 1001, 2010, 2XXX)</p>
<p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning</p>	<p>Essays (1002)</p>
<p>Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise</p>	<p>Workshops, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, independent study, peer learning.</p>	<p>Portfolio (2000)</p>
<p>Plan, conduct and report on an independent research project; conduct a review of literature relevant to their project; demonstrate the use of appropriate theory, method and empirical analysis; show evidence of critical analysis and reflection in their investigation</p>	<p>Tutorials, independent study, lectures.</p>	<p>Investigation (3000)</p>

<b>(vii) Information handling</b>		
Recognise, describe, produce and write a variety of news formats to professional standard	Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio (1000)
Develop and demonstrate the acquisition of the professional skills and attributes needed to produce original journalistic material to a standard acceptable for publication	Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio (1000)
Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio, essays (2000)
Develop existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to assume significant responsibility within organisations	Workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio (3001)
Plan, conduct and report on an independent research project; conduct a review of literature relevant to their project; demonstrate the use of appropriate theory, method and empirical analysis; show evidence of critical analysis and reflection in their investigation	Tutorials, independent study, lectures.	Investigation (3000)
<b>(viii) Skills for lifelong learning</b>		
Critically reflect on news and journalism as a concept, its professional production and application, and key concepts in contemporary academic debates about journalistic practice	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio, essays (1000)
Demonstrate skills in: - communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing) - word processing and presentation - analysis and critical evaluation - time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines)	Lectures, seminars, workshops, practicals, tutorials, independent study, group work, peer learning	Portfolio, essays (2010)
<b>YEAR ABROAD</b> Demonstrate strategies for self-monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in a different culture and institutions		

## 10. Course transfers

- a) Course transfers – Transfers from BA Journalism to other subjects will be permitted, subject to the agreement of the receiving subjects. Transfers into the BA Journalism will only be permitted into the first year, due to the incremental and skills-building nature of the programme. To permit transfers into the second and third years would be detrimental to the academic success of students wishing to transfer.

## **11. Progression points:**

This programme will follow the standard progression rules, as set out by [Senate Regulation 5: regulations governing undergraduate programmes of study](#)

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course. There is no requirement to pass the non-credit bearing modules for the purposes of progression.

### **Progression Points with a Year Abroad**

According to Senate Regulation 5.29, in the case of four-year programmes in which the year out does not count towards the final classification, the second and fourth years are used in determining the degree class, according to the standard scheme for three year programmes.

### **Application to Transfer from single subject BA to BA with a Year Abroad**

Students are invited to apply at the end of their first year to transfer to the BA with a Year Abroad. Students are selected on the basis of their first year average of 60% and above with those obtaining the highest average having priority. In addition, performance is also reviewed, taking into account such indicators as attendance and observation of academic obligations. Absence from tutorials without mitigating circumstances and non-submission of required coursework would be examples of poor performance and would result in an application being rejected.

### **Progression from 2nd year to year abroad**

Students may progress to the year abroad with no failed modules in year 2 and with an average mark of 60% from year 1 and 2. Good attendance and observation of academic obligations must continue to be maintained throughout year 2. Failure to do so may result in the opportunity to study abroad being withdrawn.

### **Progression from year abroad to final year**

For the year abroad year students are required to complete the equivalent of 60 ECTS if studying at a European partner institution or an equivalent number of credits at one of the International partner institutions.

For a student to progress to the final year of the BA with a Year Abroad programme the student has to achieve an average of 50% for the whole year. If a student has failed to achieve an average of 50% for the year, including resit options as per the partner institution's rules, by the September Board of Examiners, the Board will consider whether the student should have to transfer on to the single subject BA for their final year, taking their overall attendance and observation of academic obligations into consideration.

## **12. Scheme of Assessment**

The programme complies with the standard scheme of award and classification set out in [Senate Regulation 5](#)

### **13. Key/extra features:**

Employability is embedded into the programmes through the provision of modules JO1005 Journalism Employability in the first year and JO2004 (Year 2 Placement) in the second year, both of which encourage and facilitate the development of student skills and attributes which will help the student make themselves more employable on graduation.

Students may apply to transfer to the BA (with a Year Abroad) after successful completion of the first year and subsequent successful completion of the second year.

The BA with a Year Abroad provides for students spending their third year at one of our partner institutions and then returning to Leicester for their final year.

#### **Our partner institutions for the BA with a Year Abroad are currently:**

- Erasmus University Rotterdam (Netherlands)
- Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Germany)
- Charles University Prague (Czech Republic)
- Deakin University (Australia)
- University of Windsor (Canada)
- Unitec (New Zealand)
- Illinois State University (USA)
- The University of Tulsa (USA)
- University of Miami – Coral Gables (USA)
- California State University, Long Beach (USA)

This list is subject to change at short notice.

The exchange is a 'cultural exchange', so that students cannot apply to study at a University in a country/region from which they originally come.

Applications to transfer on to the BA with a Year Abroad degree are made towards the end of the first year. Students are selected on the basis of their first year marks.

### **14. Indications of programme quality**

**Student achievement, NSS scores, external examiner reports, periodic review reports, graduate employment and destinations.**

### **15. Summary of programme/pathway delivery and assessment:**

Single Honours BA Journalism students study key concepts, theories and research into journalism in JO1001 and develop their contextual knowledge of journalism in JO1002. They will acquire a full understanding of the wider field of Media and Communication in MS1001 and its history through MS1011 Media Origins.

In their second year, they will study and acquire skills in Broadcast Journalism (JO2001) and develop techniques for researching journalism in MS2016.

In their third year, students will study to conduct a Journalism investigation (JO3000) and select optional modules to make up their credit level. See below for details of optional modules.

Journalism students will also develop their employability in JO1004 and will be able to choose to carry out an industrial/professional credit-bearing placement (JO2004).

Third year students will choose an area of Journalism to study and research for their Journalism Investigation and make up their credits with a choice of two optional modules (see below for details). As well as new Journalism modules, within the School a number of very relevant third year optional modules, reflecting academics' research interests, already existed and a selection of these will also be offered to Journalism students.

The separate academic years do not stand alone. Each academic year builds on the skills and understanding built up at the previous level, appropriate to the number of modules and variant of degree format being studied by the student.

## Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

### BA Journalism Single Honours

#### Year One

##### SEMESTER ONE

Module Code	Module Title	Credits
JO1000	News Basics	15
MS1001	Introduction to Media and Communication	30
MS1011	Media Origins	15
MS1009	Introduction to Academic Skills	0

**Semester Total 60**

##### SEMESTER TWO

JO1003	Features Journalism	15
JO1001	Key Concepts in Journalism	30
JO1002	Journalism Ethics and Regulation	15
JO1004	Journalism Employability	0

**Semester Total 60**

#### YEAR TWO

##### SEMESTER ONE

JO2006	Digital and Social Media Journalism- Context and Practice	30
JO2001	Broadcast Journalism 1	15
MS2013	Professionalism and Employment in the Media	0
	Plus ONE option selected from the following:	
MS2001	Political Communication (optional module)	15
MS2000	The Production of News	15

**Semester Total 60**

##### SEMESTER TWO

MS2010	Journalism Studies	15
MS2016	Media Research in Practice	30
	Plus ONE option selected from the following:	
JO2003	Broadcast Journalism 2 (optional module)	15
JO2004	Magazine Journalism (optional module)	15

**Semester Total 60**

#### FINAL YEAR

##### SEMESTER ONE

JO3000	Journalism Investigation (30 credit module, spread over year)	30
JO3001	Publishing Project 1	15
	Plus TWO options selected from the following:	
JO3007	Political Journalism (optional module)	15
JO3003	Sports Journalism (optional module)	15
MS3009	Media, Celebrity and Fan Culture (optional module)	15
MS3024	Reporting Panics (optional module)	15
MS3026	Community Radio in Practice (optional module)	15
MS3011	Games and Culture (optional module)	15
JO3006	Journalism Placement	15

**Semester Total 60**

##### SEMESTER TWO

JO3002	Publishing Project 2	15
JO3000	Journalism Investigation (30 credit module, spread over year)	30
	Plus TWO options selected from the following:	

JO3004	Data Journalism (optional module)	15
MS3025	Online Journalism (optional module)	15
MS3027	Writing for PR (optional module)	15
JO3005	Financial Journalism (optional module)	15
<b>Semester Two</b>		<b>60</b>

### **Appendix 2: Module specifications**

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.09uk/sas/courses/documentation>

### **Appendix 3: Skills matrix**