



Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2024/25

Date created: 18/07/2022

Last amended: 23/04/2026

Version no. 3

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

BA Journalism and Media

BA Journalism and Media with a Year Abroad^

Diploma in Journalism and Media*

Certificate in Journalism and Media*

Notes

* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

^ Students may only enter this programme by approved transfer at the end of Year 1

a) [HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100442	50%
100444	50%

b) UCAS Code (where required)

P510

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

BA Journalism and Media

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 5 years

BA Journalism and Media (with a Year Abroad)

The normal period of registration is 4 years

The maximum period of registration 6 years

5. Typical entry requirements

A/AS-levels: BBB in relevant subjects, e.g. 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 DDM.

Other Qualifications: Other national and international qualifications welcomed. Mature students welcomed.

Alternative qualifications considered.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

N/A

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to help students 'Think Like a Journalist'.

Starting off with key and core Journalism skills, this programme will help students learn to be journalists whilst also exploring the wide media context in which journalism operates.

Students will learn to deploy their skills across a range of media and also learn how to research the media to produce interesting and useful academic work.

In addition, for the 'with a Year abroad' variants:

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA) please see <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

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8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement: [Subject Benchmark Statement: Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies Framework for Higher Education Qualifications \(FHEQ\)](#)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data
- Broad aims of industry accreditation bodies, especially the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ) www.nctj.com and the Broadcast Journalism Training Council (BJTC) 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

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Critically analyse key debates and developments within the field of media and communication studies.</p> <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>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>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>Critically analyse theoretical and methodological approaches within the field of media and communication, in order to make students aware of the place of mass and digital media within their broader social, economic, political, and cultural contexts at both national and international levels</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, media production exercises.</p> <p>Workshops, seminars</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises and reports, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries, computer based exercises, media production projects</p> <p>Portfolios, essays, presentations.</p>
<p>[Year abroad] Acquire knowledge of different debates and schools of thought in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand</p>		

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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<p>Explain the attributes and complex role of media and communication within societies.</p> <p>Analyse the various theoretical and scholarly approaches to understanding mediated communication processes and phenomena.</p> <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>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>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>Critically analyse theoretical and methodological approaches within the field of media and communication, in order to make students aware of the place of mass and digital media within their broader social, economic, political, and cultural contexts at both national and international levels</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, media production exercises.</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, media production exercises</p> <p>Workshops, seminars</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises and reports, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries, computer-based exercises, media production projects.</p> <p>Essays, portfolios.</p>
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Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Use journalism to explore sustainability issues.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Analyse and explain the complex role of media and communication within more specific social contexts in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand</p>		

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Analyse media and communication processes and structures at national and international levels.</p> <p>Analyse the role of societal, cultural, economical and technological factors in the processes of mediated communication.</p> <p>Critically evaluate the nature of media and communication studies.</p> <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>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</p> <p>Critically analyse methodological approaches within the field of media and communication, in order to make students aware of the place of mass and digital media within their broader social, economic, political, and cultural contexts at both national and international levels</p> <p>[Year abroad] Demonstrate the ability to analyse media and communication processes and structures through different cultural contexts, political and social structures..</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p> <p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises and reports, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries, independent research projects..</p>

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Analyse and synthesise literature that addresses key debates within the field of media and communication studies. Present problems of the field of media and communication studies in a variety of written and oral formats.</p> <p>Recognise, describe, produce and write a variety of news formats to professional standard</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>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>Critically evaluate different approaches to concepts around the ethics and regulation of journalism</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, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Writing tasks, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, online forums, online diaries.</p>

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Use social scientific and humanistic methodologies to address research questions within the field of media and communication studies.</p> <p>Develop and sustain scholarly arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilising evidence.</p> <p>Critically evaluate scholarly texts and source materials</p> <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>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>Describe and evaluate recent research on news and journalism</p> <p>Critically analyse methodological approaches within the field of media and communication, in order to make students aware of the place of mass and digital media within their broader social, economic, political, and cultural contexts at both national and international levels</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p> <p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises and reports, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries, independent research projects.</p>

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Design, research and present an independently conceived research project.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Demonstrate inter-cultural awareness and understanding</p> <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>Independent research projects, dissertations.</p>	<p>Independent research projects, dissertations.</p>

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Present material using appropriate resources, including visual, written and aural material.</p> <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>Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Seminar presentations, contributions to offline and online forums/discussions</p>

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Articulate ideas, information and debates through the use of clear and competent English, including the use of grammar, spelling, sentence construction and clear structure.</p> <p>Recognise, describe, produce and write a variety of news formats to professional standard</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing) - word processing and presentation - analysis and critical evaluation - time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines) <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>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research</p>	<p>essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, online diaries, independent research projects.</p>

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Demonstrate competency with Information Technology and theoretical knowledge of its development and uses. Use software packages(e.g. SPSS), virtual learning environments(e.g. Blackboard), and the internet for learning and research purposes.</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>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing) - word processing and presentation - analysis and critical evaluation - time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines) 	<p>Study skills workshops, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, methods exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, dissertations, independent research projects, online production exercises, computer-based exercises, online forums, online diaries, methods exercises</p>

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Demonstrate numeracy skills and use statistics in media and communication research.</p> <p>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing) - word processing and presentation - analysis and critical evaluation - time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines) <p>Apply the principles of entrepreneurial journalism and deploy the key techniques in order to propose an entrepreneurial journalism enterprise</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, methods exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, dissertations, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, methods exercises.</p>

v) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Work in groups and develop skills in group management, leadership and peer responsibility. Learning in group situations.</p> <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>Tutorials, seminars, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Seminar group presentations, contributions to discussions, team problem solving exercises, online forums, group media production and research methods projects.</p>

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Develop solutions and recognise further problems that might arise.</p> <p>Stimulate interest in problem solving.</p> <p>Investigate and demonstrate the core concepts and skills involved in publication design</p> <p>Describe and evaluate recent research on news and journalism</p> <p>Demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <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>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>Reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises, media production exercises.</p>	<p>Computer-based exercises, problem based exercises and reports, media production exercises.</p>

vii) Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Find and analyse new information.</p> <p>Recognise, describe, produce and write a variety of news formats to professional standard</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>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>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>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem based exercises and reports, media production exercises.</p>

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Manage time effectively. Work independently as well as in groups. Plan research and present results using oral and written communication.</p> <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>Demonstrate skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - communication (formulating, articulating arguments through writing) - word processing and presentation - analysis and critical evaluation - time management (attending lectures and seminars; meeting assessment deadlines) <p>[Year Abroad] Demonstrate strategies for self-monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in a different culture and institutions</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises, media production exercises.</p>	

Year Abroad

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA) please see <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course

a) Course transfers

Not usually permitted.

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special Features

This programme blends theory, practice and context in an innovative and academically inspiring way, by allowing students to learn the media and societal context of their professional practice at the same time as they are developing their skills in these areas.

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA) please see <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

13. Indications of Programme Quality

Oversight by MCS Education Committee and CSSAH Education Committee.
External examiner involvement and reports

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at [exam-papers](#) [log-in required]

Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2024/25

Date created: 18/07/2022

Last amended: 23/04/2026

Version no. 3

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Updates to the programme

Academic year	Module	Change
2024/25	JO1005 Introduction to Academic Skills	0 credit module deleted
2026/27	MS3000 Media and Gender	Option module removed
2026/27	MS3004 Global Cultures and Everyday Politics	Option module renamed
2026/27	MS3013 Media and the Body	Option module removed

BA Journalism and Media

Level 4/Year 1 2024/25

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	JO1000	News Basics	15 credits
Sem 1	MS1001	Introduction to Media and Communication	30 credits
Sem 1	MS1011	Media Origins	15 credits
Sem 2	JO1003	Features Journalism	15 credits
Sem 2	JO1002	Journalism Ethics and Regulation	15 credits
Sem 2	MS1002	Studying Media and Communication	30 credits
Sem 2	JO1004	Journalism Employability	n/a

Option modules

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Level 5/Year 2 2025/26

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	45 credits	45 credits
Optional	n/a	15 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	JO2006	Digital and Social Media Journalism	30 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	JO2001	Podcasting and Radio Journalism	15 credits
Sem 1	MS2013	Professionalism and Employability in the Media	n/a
Sem 2	MS2016	Media Research in Practice	30 credits
Sem 2	MS2010	Journalism Studies	15 credits

Notes

[n/a]

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	MS2001	Political Communications	15 credits
Semester 1	MS2006	Identity and Popular Culture	15 credits
Semester 1	MS2012	Global Film Culture	15 credits
Semester 1	JO2004	Magazine Journalism	15 credits
Semester 2	JO2003	Introduction to TV and Video Journalism	15 credits
Semester 2	JO2007	Journalism Perspectives	15 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Level 6/Year 3 2026/27

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	45 credits	15 credits	15 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	15 credits

120 credits

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year Long	JO3010	Journalism Joints Dissertation	45 credits
Sem 1	JO3001	Multi-Media Journalism Project 1	15 credits
Sem 2	JO3002	Multi-Media Journalism Project 2	15 credits

Notes

[n/a]

Option modules (Two in first semester, one in second)

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	JO3006	Journalism Placement	15 credits
Sem 1	JO3008	Investigative Journalism	15 credits
Sem 1	MS3004	Global Cultures and Everyday Politics	15 credits
Sem 1	MS3024	Reporting Panics	15 credits
Sem 1	MS3041	Media Rights and Responsibilities	15 credits
Sem 2	JO3004	Data Journalism	15 credits
Sem 1	JO3007	Political Journalism	15 credits
Sem 2	MS3019	Advertising and Consumer Culture	15 credits
Sem 2	MS3027	Writing for PR	15 credits
Sem 2	JO3011	TV News Production	15 credits
Sem 2	JO3003	Sports Journalism	15 Credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).