



Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University

Prifysgol  
Metropolitan  
Caerdydd

CARDIFF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & SOCIAL POLICY

Department of Humanities

**MA Specialist Journalism  
2018-2019**

Joining Information

Dean of Cardiff School of Education & Social Policy: Julia Longville  
Programme Director: Robert Taffurelli

Cardiff Metropolitan University  
Cardiff School of Education & Social Policy  
Cyncoed Campus  
Cyncoed Road  
CARDIFF  
CF23 6XD

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>Cardiff Metropolitan University</b>
<b>HEAD OF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION &amp; SOCIAL POLICY</b>	<b>Julia Longville</b>
<b>HEAD OF DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>Dr Cheryl Ellis</b>
<b>PROGRAMME DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Robert Taffurelli</b>
<b>VALIDATING BODY</b>	<b>Cardiff Metropolitan University</b>
<b>AWARDS</b>	<b>MA Specialist Journalism</b>
	<b>Exit points at PG Cert / PG Dip</b>
<b>DURATION of MA</b>	<b>1 Year Full Time (maximum of 2)</b>
	<b>2 Years Part Time (maximum of 5)</b>

## Welcome message from the Programme Director

Welcome to Cardiff Metropolitan University and to **MA Specialist Journalism**.

Magazine journalism occupies a rapidly expanding yet fiercely competitive employment market and the UK magazine industry is one of the most established and recognised in the world. **MA Specialist Journalism** is designed to give those aspiring to work in this burgeoning sector the knowledge and skills to succeed. The course has been devised to satisfy the magazine industry's growing demand for employees with postgraduate qualifications in magazine journalism, and its focus is on professional and career development. This professional preparation MA should enable any postgraduate of the course to compete effectively for recognised jobs in magazine journalism and equip them with editorial, management, and leadership skills that will allow them to pursue successful long-term careers within the industry. The course is designed in such a way as to allow students to combine the study of magazine journalism with specialist areas to facilitate professional progression into the journalistic specialisms of film, music, fashion or sport.

We are sure you will have a satisfying and rewarding period of study with us and that you will find the programme, university environment and associated activities both stimulating and exciting. We encourage you to make the most of this learning opportunity and your time at Cardiff Met. The MA team is here to help and encourage you as you progress through the programme, and we look forward to getting to know each one of you.

This document will provide you with key information about the programme and the rules and administrative procedures governing the programme. It also acts as a signpost to other support services and activities across the university with a number of web-links to find out more information.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable year.

Robert

**Robert Taffurelli**

**Programme Director MA Specialist Journalism**

## RECOMMENDED READING PRIOR TO START OF THE COURSE

Pears, J. and Shields, G. (2016) *Cite them Right: The Essential Referencing Guide*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

If you're uncertain about what postgraduate study is and how it differs from undergraduate work, we recommend the following, especially in regards to what is meant by criticality in your work:

Cottrell, S. (2017) *Critical Thinking Skills: Effective Analysis, Argument and Reflection*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

**The best way to learn to be an effective media practitioner is to read and listen to the work of other practitioners. Students must read widely from a variety of magazines, including: consumer, trade, contract and business-to-business and newspapers, including: broadsheet and tabloid, national and local press, and keep abreast of current affairs, e.g. listen to and/or watch a radio and television news bulletin at least once a day.**

### Modular Required Reading

#### Writing for Magazines

Adams, S. and Hicks, W. (2009) *Interviewing for Journalists*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge

Frost, C. (2010) *Reporting for Journalists*, 2nd ed. London: Routledge

Hicks, W. (2013) *English for Journalist*, 20th Ann. ed. London: Routledge

Hicks, W. et al (2016) *Writing for Journalists*, 3rd ed. London: Routledge

Turner, B. and Orange R. (2012) *Specialist Journalism*. London: Routledge

Wheeler, S. (2009) *Feature Writing for Journalists*. London: Routledge

#### Magazine and Production Journalism

Holmes, T. and Nice, L. (2012) *Magazine Journalism*. London: Sage

McKay, J. (2013) *The Magazines Handbook*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. London: Routledge

Whittaker, J. (2016), *Magazine Production*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Routledge

#### The Specialist Journalist

Allan, S. (2005) *Journalism: Critical Issues*. Open University Press

Herbert, J. (2000) *Journalism in the Digital Age: theory and practice for broadcast, print and online media*. Oxford: Focal Press

Turner, B. and Orange R. (2012) *Specialist Journalism*. London: Routledge

Wheeler, S. (2009) *Feature Writing for Journalists*. London: Routledge

### **Multimedia Journalism**

Bradshaw, P. and Rohumaa, L. (2011) *The Online Journalism Handbook: skills to survive and thrive in the digital age*. New York: Longman

Dick, M. (2013) *Search: theory and practice in journalism online*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

Leslie, J. (2013) *Modern Magazine: Visual Journalism in the Digital*. London: Laurence King

Stam, D. and Scott, A. (2014) *Inside Magazine Journalism*. London: Routledge

### **Law, Ethics & Landscape**

Hannah, M. and Dodd, M. (2016) *McNae's Essential Law for Journalists*, 23<sup>rd</sup> ed. Oxford: Oxford UP

### **Employability and Enterprise**

Morrish, J. (2003) *Magazine Editing: In Print and Online: How to Develop and Manage a Successful*. London: Routledge

Stam, D. & Scott A. (2014) *Inside Magazine Publishing*. London: Routledge

Whittaker, J. (2016) *Magazine Production*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London: Routledge

### **Dissertation**

Hall, G & Longman, J. (2008) *The Postgraduate's Companion*. London: Sage

Wisker, G. (2007) *The Postgraduate Research Handbook*. Palgrave: Study Guides

### **Research Skills in Journalism**

Berger, A. (2016). *Media and Communication Research Methods: An Introduction to Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. 4th Edition. London: Sage

Hansen, A. & Machin, D. (2015). *Media and Communication Research Methods* 4<sup>th</sup> ed. London: Palgrave

## Programme Calendar

The academic year at Cardiff Met consists of three terms, the dates for which are given below.

<http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/registry/Pages/Term-Dates.aspx>

### Term Dates (2018-19)

	<b>Week beginning</b>	<b>Week ending</b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Mon 24 September 2018	Fri 14 December 2018
<b>Spring Term</b>	Mon 14 January 2019	Fri 29 March 2019
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 29 April 2019	Fri 14 June 2019

There are two **reading weeks** in the Autumn and Spring terms when there is no classroom teaching. The dates for these reading weeks are:

Autumn term reading week – Week commencing 29 October 2018

Spring term reading week – Week commencing 18 February 2019

**Induction** for MA Specialist Journalism takes place on:

**Thursday 20th September 2018 from 1:00pm.**

## ONLINE ENROLMENT

### Enrolment

Enrolment is an essential process that confirms your status as a Cardiff Met student and also gives you access to Cardiff Met IT systems, payment of fees, and, importantly, enables you to obtain your Student MetCard.

You can complete the online Self-Enrolment process from any computer through the Cardiff Met Self Service system once you have received your **Enrolment Email**.

On receipt of your Enrolment Email, please begin your Self-Enrolment by going to the [www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/enrolment](http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/enrolment) webpage and following the step-by-step guidance provided. Access to the Enrolment section of the Cardiff Met Self Service system will require you to login with a username and password. **Please input the same username and password you originally used to apply with.** Guidance is provided for forgotten usernames/passwords. Please note that in order to Self-Enrol, your status with Cardiff Met must be **Unconditional Firm (UF)** i.e. all conditions met and place accepted.

## INDUCTION

Induction takes place the week before teaching begins, on **Thursday 20th September 2018**.

The programme is as follows:

**1:00 pm Arrival and Welcome**

**2:00pm Introduction to the programme.**

**Room C203, Cyncoed Campus**

## **PROGRAMME AIMS**

The MA in Specialist Journalism aims to equip students with the full range of skills, both practical and theoretical, necessary to work as journalists in reporting and reviewing their chosen specialist field. Beyond the crucial activity of journalistic writing, the programme seeks to develop the analytical skills of students to reflect on new developments and trends, within a contextual framework that enables them to identify specific practices of film/music/fashion/sports industries, and how this relates to specialist journalism.

## **PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES**

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

*On successful completion of the programme students should be able to:*

- Demonstrate acquisition of the relevant areas of generic and specialist knowledge of theories, concepts, terminology and literature, of chosen specialist journalism;
- Demonstrate a comprehensive awareness of how different genres, perspectives and styles have developed in particular fields of journalism;
- Evidence acquisition of specialist knowledge of the legal and ethical framework within which journalism is bound to operate.

### **Cognitive Skills**

*On successful completion of the programme students should be able to:*

- Utilise and reflect critically upon particular professional approaches to the interpretation and analysis of specific topics of enquiry;
- Demonstrate the ability to evaluate journalistic work of a high level through peer review;
- Critically evaluate and select relevant methods, skills and techniques in the successful completion of a variety of journalistic tasks.

### **Practical Skills**

*On successful completion of the programme students should be able to:*

- Produce to a standard of professional scrutiny written pieces of work and other forms of journalistic output (e.g. audio segments);
- Produce an in-depth and sustained written research report (dissertation) on a topic within the fields of their chosen journalism specialism, to a standard appropriate to Masters level;
- Undertake the production of media and communication artefacts/texts in non-print media, e.g. video, audio, multimedia/ICTs.

### **Capabilities and Values**

*On successful completion of the programme students should be able to:*

- Critically evaluate and analyse problems and provide appropriate solutions;
- Communicate effectively, in written, oral, visual and combined formats;
- Demonstrate skills of team working and project management.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

MA Specialist Journalism is offered in both a full time and part time mode. The usual time for completion is one year for the full time route, two years for the part time route. However, the period of candidature is currently two years for full-time study and five years part time.

The programme is modular in design with both full time and part time students undertaking the same modules. All modules are core and are at Level 7. In order to proceed to the Dissertation, students need to have accrued 120 credits by completing the seven taught modules.

The following table indicates the number of Level 7 credits required for each of the awards:

Postgraduate Certificate	Postgraduate Diploma	Masters
60 credits at Level 7	120 credits at Level 7	180 credits at Level 7

All modules are weighted at 20 credits with the exception of the dissertation module which has a weighting of 40 credits. Each 20 credits represents 200 hours of student effort.

It is a prerequisite that students undertaking the dissertation module must have passed all other modules (see Assessment Regulations below).

Taught modules shall be completed as prescribed in the Programme Handbook. The full degree programme shall be completed within the following periods from the date of initial enrolment:

	Minimum Period	Maximum Period
Full Time Candidates	One Year	Two Years
Part Time Candidates	Two Years	Five Years

The following table sets out the modular structure of the programme and provides indicative information regarding the scheduling of the full time and part time route.

### Exit Points – Specialist Journalism

Exit Point	Module Title	Credit Value
<b>PG Cert (60 credits)</b>	Writing for Magazines	20 credits
	Magazine and Production Journalism	20 credits
	The Specialist Journalist	20 credits
<b>PG Dip (120)</b>	Research Skills in Journalism	20 credits
	Ethics, Law and Landscape	20 credits
	Multimedia Journalism	20 credits
<b>MA (180)</b>	Employability and Enterprise	20 credits
	Dissertation	40 credits

## Useful links

- [Academic Handbook](#)
- [Accommodation](#)
- [Additional Costs](#)

Additional costs are any mandatory or optional expenses, in addition to tuition fees, that need to be paid for by students to fully participate and complete their studies.
- [Admissions Policy](#)
- [Bike Shelters](#)

Once you are on campus and have collected your student ID card you will be able to request access to the various bike shelters around our campuses.
- [Campus Maps & Met Rider](#)
- [Cardiff Met News](#)
- [Cardiff Met Sport & Facilities](#)
- [Cardiff Met SU](#) *including Freshers information & wristbands*
- [DBS](#)

If your programme involves you coming into contact with children and young or vulnerable people then you will have been asked to carry out a criminal records check as part of your offer.
- [Occupational Health](#)

To comply with current Health & Safety legislation, all Cardiff Met students undertaking a healthcare-related programme at Cardiff School of Sport & Health Sciences (involving a clinical placement component), are required to participate in a mandatory Occupational Health Screening assessment. Additionally, certain courses are also required to adhere to the Department of Health's immunisation and vaccination programme.
- [Student Finance](#)

For information on tuition fees, alumni discount, loans and scholarships, as well as contact information for the Student Finance Advisory Service.
- [Student Handbook](#)
- [Student Services](#)

For help during your time with us in relation to your health, welfare, lifestyle and future career. The aim is to provide you with all the support you need to ensure your studies are as enjoyable and successful as possible. Services also include counselling, disability and chaplaincy.
- [Term Dates](#)
- [Virtual Tours](#)

Have another look around our campus and facilities with our guided virtual tours