UWE University of the West of England
BRISTOL

CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data						
Module Title	Reporting Journalism					
Module Code	UABAK3-30-M		Level	M	Version	1.0
Owning Faculty	ACE		Field		Broadcast and Journalism	
Contributes towards	MA Journalism					
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15	Module Type	Project	
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements	N/A		
Valid From	September 2012		Valid to	September 2018		

CAP Approval Date	June 1, 2012

Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to: • Understand different writing techniques employed in news reporting and feature writing across print and on-line platforms (assessed through Component A 1, 2); • Demonstrate a proficiency in journalistic interviewing and research skills (assessed through Component A 1,2,3); • Interrogate the practices associated with news gathering at a local level (assessed through Component A 2,3); • Demonstrate that they understand the significance of layout and illustration in communicating news stories and reviews to varied audiences across different platforms (assessed through Component A 1); • Have acquired the basic skills to use software relevant to journalistic production (assessed through Component A 1); • Recognise and evaluate civic structures, geography and likely sources in an urban news area; (assessed through Component A 1,2,3) • Identify a topic suitable for journalistic investigation and produce an outline plan for the required research (assessed through Component A 3);
Syllabus Outline	This module provides an introduction to journalistic research and writing techniques alongside and introduction to the practical application of media law (examined in more detail in Media Law and Ethics) and civics. Indicative core skills include:

	- News writing - Feature writing - Note taking - Multi-platform production - Interviewing - The law and journalism - Journalism civics Approaches to newsgathering, research, interviewing and writing will be addressed through a mix of classroom, tutorials and private study. Students will be required to keep an online blog (news, feature or campaigning/editorial). Students will be required to keep a detailed log of their activities and demonstrate a constant critical engagement with their work and its practical, legal and ethical underpinnings. They will need to be able to articulate their approach to their cohort and tutor on a regular basis. Indicative technical skills include layout, photography and design.
Contact Hours/Scheduled Hours	Total contact time will average 3 hours per week over 12 weeks = 36 hours In addition students will attend a series of instructor led workshops = 9 hours Total 45 hours
Teaching and Learning Methods	**Scheduled learning** - Students will be required to attend a weekly lecturer-led seminar/workshop. (taught over one semester) **Independent learning** - In addition students are expected to work independently for at least 6 hours per week, including reading set texts and related research materials; desk research; newsgathering in the Bristol area. - Students will also be required to learn and use the technical equipment in their own time for production purposes, with appropriate supervision.
Reading Strategy	Core (essential) reading is required for this module and will be indicated from the outset in the module handbook via the module information on MyUWE or by the module tutors. Additional core readings that facilitate exercises and stimulate discussion (and are brief) may be clearly identified during the run of the module, e.g., a topical news article. Students will be given clear guidance on how to access these readings. Digital access will be the preferred option. Further reading is advisable for this module and students are encouraged to explore additional texts held in the library. These include a wide variety of print and online resources. The Library Service's web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services, and to the library catalogue. A current list of indicative titles of relevance to the module is given in the module handbook and revised annually. Guidance will be provided about how to access further reading and how students can identify relevant sources for themselves. To support students' development of information literacy skills, academic staff and the subject librarian will regularly review provision and support in line with current reading strategies.
Indicative Reading List	- Banks, D. and Hanna, M. (2012) *McNae's Essential Law for Journalists.* 21st ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. - Frost, C. (2010) *Reporting for Journalists.* 2nd ed. London: Routledge. - Harcup, T. (2009) *Journalism: Principles and Practice.* London: Sage. - Hicks, W., Adams, S., Gilbert, H., Holmes, T. (2008) *Writing for Journalists.* 2nd ed. London: Routledge. - Hicks, W. (2007) *English for Journalists.* London: Routledge - Jones, J. and Salter, L. (2012) *Digital Journalism.* London: Sage. - Keeble, R. L. and Mair, J. (2012) *The Phone Hacking Scandal: Journalism on*

	Trial. Bury St Edmonds: Arima.
	• Lee-Wright, P., Phillips, A. and Witschge, T. (2012) *Changing Journalism.* London: Routledge. • Morrison, J. (2011) *Essential Public Affairs for Journalists.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. • Phillips, A. (2007) *Good Writing for Journalists.* London: Sage. • Wahl-Jorgensen, K. and Hanitzsch, T. (2009) *The Handbook of Journalism Studies.* London: Routledge. Websites include: www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk; www.journalism.co.uk; www.mediawise.org.uk; www.cpbf.org.uk; www.mediastandardtrust.org; www.nuj.org; www.ofcom.org.uk

Part 3: Assessment	

Assessment Strategy	COMPONENT A
	
	PORTFOLIO: 100%
	Students will be required to produce a portfolio of journalistic output Indicative contents – (a) print and (b) online versions of
	    • news stories, (A1)
	    • a profile based on face to face interview; (A1)
	    • a feature article laid out appropriately with illustrations (A1)
	    • an online blog (A2)
	
	They will also be required to keep a detailed Workbook recording their reading and research and sources, which will be assessed as part of the portfolio. (A3)
	
	Assessment criteria for the Portfolio will include *inter alia*
	
	• Correct grammar, spelling and punctuation;
	• Appropriate use of language;
	• Appropriate headlines and illustrations;
	• Originality of content;
	• Evidence of appropriate research including interviews;
	• Proper records of reading, research, attendance, etc.

Identify final assessment component and element	News stories, profile and feature (Print/Online versions) A1		

		A:	**B**:
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)		**100**	

First Sit

Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. News stories, profile and feature (Print/Online versions)	60
2. Online Blog	20
3. Workbook	20

Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)

Component A (controlled conditions) **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**
1. News stories, profile and feature (Print/Online versions)	60
2. Online Blog	20
3. Workbook	20

Component B **Description of each element**	**Element weighting** **(as % of component)**

If a student is permitted an **EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE** of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.