



CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

| Part 1: Basic Data | | | | | |
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| Module Title | Newsgathering | | | | |
| Module Code | UACALG-30-1 | Level | 1 | Version | 1.0 |
| Owning Faculty | ACE | Field | CMS | | |
| Contributes towards | BA (Hons) JOURNALISM, BA (Hons) JOURNALISM & ENGLISH BA (Hons) MEDIA AND JOURNALISM B (Hons) JOURNALISM & PUBLIC RELATIONS | | | | |
| 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 | |

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| CAP Approval Date | June 1 st , 2012 |
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| Part 2: Learning and Teaching | |
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| Learning Outcomes | <p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate that they understand the significance of layout and illustration in communicating news stories and reviews to varied audiences; (assessed through component A1) • Demonstrate that they understand journalistic interviewing and research skills in order to prepare news stories and reviews (assessed through Component A1) • Demonstrate that they have understood the key writing techniques underpinning news stories and reviews (assessed through component A1) • Understand the key legal concepts, civic structures and geography (likely news sources in an urban news area); (assessed through component A1,2) • Have acquired an understanding of conventions and practices associated with the gathering of news at a local level; (assessed through component A 1,2) • Demonstrate the basic skills to use software relevant to journalistic production (assessed through component A1); • Recognise the scope and range of roles and opportunities within their subject. (non assessed) • Understand the role of the public relations industry in relation to newsgathering. (not directly assessed) • Begin to develop their knowledge and awareness of the professional context of their subject (assessed through component A2) |

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| Syllabus Outline | <p>Indicative areas covered in this module</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding news areas • Civic structures • Getting to know a news patch • The role of the press office • Anatomy of a newspaper • Writing for audiences • NIBs (News in Brief) • What is news? • News gathering • Vox Pops • Interviewing for news • Sourcing Stories • News Writing & News in briefs • Introduction to page layout/design/ Headline writing • Media regulation • Libel and the law • Profile writing • Health & Safety issues • Adobe InDesign • Photoshop 1 Uploading text & images |
| Contact Hours/Schedule d Hours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hour lecture • 1 hour seminar • 2 hour workshop • 1 hour technical training session <p>Access to personal tutorial time</p> <p>Total Hours: 6/week or 72 across the module</p> |
| Teaching and Learning Methods | <p>The module will be taught through a series of lectures, seminars and practical workshops. Topics raised in lectures will be examined through discussion and presentations in seminars, or developed as practical exercises in workshop.</p> <p>The workshops will focus on practical activities designed to help students develop ideas, learn about journalistic research, data-gathering; writing, editing, and illustrating copy for publication, and the problems associated with writing for different contexts,</p> <p>There will be instruction session in the use of industry standard software.</p> <p>Students will also be required to engage in the equivalent of 8 hours independent learning each week - reading, field research, preparing and completing assignments etc.</p> |
| Reading Strategy | <p>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</p> |

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| | strategies. |
| Indicative Reading List | <p>Banks, D. and Hanna, M. (2012) <i>McNae's Essential Law for Journalists</i>. 21st ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Brooke, H. (2007) <i>Your Right to Know: A Citizen's Guide to the Freedom of Information Act</i>. 2nd ed. London: Pluto Press.</p> <p>Harcup, T. (2009) <i>Journalism: Principles and Practice</i>. 2nd ed. London: Sage.</p> <p>Hicks, W., Adams, S., Gilbert, H. and Holmes, T. (2008) <i>Writing for Journalists</i>. 2nd ed. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Hicks, W. (2007) <i>English for Journalists</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Frost, C. (2010) <i>Reporting for Journalists</i>. 2nd ed. London: Routledge.</p> <p>McNair, B. (2009) <i>News and Journalism in the UK</i>. 5th ed. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Morrison, J. (2011) <i>Essential Public Affairs for Journalists</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Theaker, A. (2011) <i>The Public Relations Handbook</i>. 4th ed. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Wahl-Jorgensen, K. and Hanitzsch, T. (2009) <i>The Handbook of Journalism Studies</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Witschge, T., Phillips, A. and Lee-Wright, P. (2011) <i>Changing Journalism</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Websites include: www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk; www.journalism.co.uk; www.mediawise.org.uk; www.cpb.org.uk; www.mediastandardtrust.org; www.nuj.org; www.ofcom.org.uk</p> |

| Part 3: Assessment | |
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| Assessment Strategy | <p>Students will be required to produce a portfolio of journalistic output</p> <p>Indicative contents</p> <p>News stories, a profile, and reviews laid out appropriately with illustrations in Adobe InDesign.</p> <p>Students will be required to keep a detailed Workbook which will be assessed as part of the portfolio, PORTFOLIO: 70%</p> <p>They will also be required to produce a reflective essay making reference to current journalistic issues. ESSAY ASSESSMENT: 20%</p> <p>They will be required to attend all sessions, and their attendance record will be assessed. ATTENDANCE: ASSESSMENT 10%</p> <p>Assessment criteria for the Journalism Portfolio will include <i>inter alia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct grammar, spelling and punctuation; • Appropriate use of language; • Appropriate headlines and illustrations; • Originality of content; • Evidence of appropriate research including interviews; |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proper records of reading, research, attendance, etc.• Evidence of completion of all assignments. <p>Assessment criteria for the a reflective essay will include <i>inter alia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correct grammar, spelling and punctuation;• Originality of content;• Evidence of appropriate research• Appropriate referencing of sources. <p>Attendance records will be assessed in accordance with current university practice</p> |
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| Identify final assessment component and element | Writing Portfolio and logbook A1 | |
| % weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only) | A: | B: |
| | 90 | 10 |
| First Sit | | |
| Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element | Element weighting (as % of component) | |
| 1. Writing Portfolio and logbook | 70 | |
| 2. Report 1500 words | 20 | |
| 3. Attendance | 10 | |
| Component B Description of each element | Element weighting (as % of component) | |
| | 100 | |
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| Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required) | | |
| Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element | Element weighting (as % of component) | |
| 1. Writing Portfolio and logbook | 70 | |
| 2. Report (2000 words) | 30 | |
| Component B Description of each element | Element weighting (as % of component) | |
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| 2.(etc) | | |
| 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. | | |