

Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	PGCert Data Journalism
2	Course Code	PT1212
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)	BCU
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)	N/A

6	Course Description
	<p>The PGCert in Data Journalism is a cutting-edge course designed to give you the interactive storytelling skills needed to work within a growing number of jobs in the media and beyond. It is particularly aimed at those who have already worked with data or journalism who wish to expand their skillset and experience.</p> <p>The course has relationships with HuffPost, Guardian, The Birmingham Dispatch and the BBC, as well as a number of other organisations covering broadcast, online and print data journalism, all of which are keen to bring in the skills that you will be developing on the course.</p> <p>Studying under internationally renowned course leaders in a city with a vibrant cultural sector, and with access to a range of media organisations, you'll learn exciting new skills in data journalism and interactive storytelling across a range of contexts, from mobile-first data journalism on social platforms, to practising data driven journalism within different newsroom contexts. Relationships with newspaper, magazine, online and broadcast organisations provide unique opportunities for students to build contacts and experience, and work on live projects.</p> <p>What is covered in this course?</p> <p>This practical course is designed to help you respond to work within a range of data journalism roles, from sourcing data, to investigating leads, and communicating your stories in new, engaging ways, in a range of newsroom contexts.</p> <p>Under the guidance of award-winning journalists who have worked with organisations ranging from the BBC and The Bureau of Investigative Journalism to The Guardian and specialist magazines, you'll develop a keen eye for a story, develop advanced data driven journalism techniques that help you establish the facts, find out how to work within a range of newsroom contexts and tell those stories across a range of platforms.</p> <p>You'll get access to some of the industry's most respected journalists who are working in the field now, learn about the legal, commercial and ethical contexts surrounding the future of journalism, and you'll have the opportunity to work with wider data communities as you make a name for yourself in your chosen sector. Previous students have worked with organisations including the BBC, ITV News, Bureau Local, The Guardian, FullFact and the European Data Journalism Network.</p>

	<p>You'll have access to the facilities at BCU's Parkside campus, including radio and TV studios, and audio and video editing suites. You'll have access to video and still cameras, audio recording equipment and mobile journalism kits to get out and capture the human side of the story too. You'll be expected to find and report stories regularly, experimenting with new formats while exploring and testing the latest research into this exciting period in journalism's development.</p> <p>As the course progresses you will develop more specialist skills and connect with others already in the industry, building your reputation as you prepare to enter the industry. Graduates of the course have gone on to work as data journalists, interactive journalists, and journalism consultants.</p>
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Post Graduate Certificate of Arts Data Journalism	L7	60
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	N/A		

8	Variation from the University Regulations
	<i>Not applicable</i>

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Part Time	City Centre	12 months
			Code(s)

10	Entry Requirements	
	Home:	<i>You should have a 2:1 or higher in a related discipline from any UK university. Students with extensive professional experience which may be equivalent to degree level study can apply for Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning.</i>
	EU:	<i>Applications not accepted due to visa rules.</i>
	International:	<i>Applications not accepted due to visa rules.</i>
	Access:	<i>n/a</i>

11	Course Aims	
	<p>The aims of this course are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop critically-aware, ethical graduates who are creative problem solvers and innovators • To equip students with skills and knowledge that facilitate long-term employability, empowering them to adapt to ongoing change in the industry • To establish and develop professional production practices across multiple platforms and forms • To develop an understanding of critical issues and debates within the industry • To develop an applied knowledge of the legal, regulatory and ethical contexts within which journalism takes place 	

12	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1	Apply a systematic understanding of professional conventions, production practices and industry perspectives and the relationships between these systems of knowledge.
2	Systematically and critically analyse and evaluate incomplete and/or contradictory data and evidence, developing effective and advanced methodologies to explain and support conclusions within a journalistic context.
	Skills and other attributes
3	Design and develop a range of advanced specialist journalistic projects and activities
4	Systematically organise and communicate information using criteria developed for specific audiences.

13	Level Learning Outcomes
	N/A

14	Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy
	The majority of modules on this course feature workshop sessions, including lecture elements, group discussion and practical exercises. Sessions may feature guest speakers and can involve working on live briefs. Assessment is largely through coursework, particularly production portfolios alongside evaluations, but also presentations and reports (literature reviews, methodologies and proposals). One module involves exam-based assessment. Students are given formative feedback through tutorials and written feedback on marked work. This includes feed forward to suggest areas for improvement in future submission. Some assessments mirror documentation and artefacts that are standard in professional practice.

15	Course Requirements													
15a	<p>Level 7:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 60 credits):</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MED7373</td> <td>Data Journalism</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED7369</td> <td>Specialist Journalism and Investigations</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED7374</td> <td>Law, Regulations and Institutions</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MED7373	Data Journalism	20	MED7369	Specialist Journalism and Investigations	20	MED7374	Law, Regulations and Institutions	20
Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value												
MED7373	Data Journalism	20												
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15b	Structure Diagram
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SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
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Level 7

Core MED7373: Data Journalism (20 credits)	Core MED7374: Law, Regulation and Institutions (20 credits)
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SEMESTERS TWO AND THREE	
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Level 7

Core MED7369: Specialist Journalism and Investigations (20 credits) (classes and directed study in semester 2; continued independent study, tutorials and assessment in semester 3)
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16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 7

Workload

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	72
Directed Learning	408
Private Study	120
Total Hours	600

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	83%
Exam	17%
In-Person	0%