



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BAH Sports Journalism

Course Code: BSPJO

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Sports Journalism (BSPJO)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed 12/2023

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Sports Journalism
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Arts Sports Journalism Diploma of Higher Education Sports Journalism Certificate of Higher Education Sports Journalism
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification & Credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total).
Course Lengths & Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: The format is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)
Part Time Study	N/A
Location(s) of Delivery	City Campus, Leeds Some sessions may also be delivered online or at Headingley campus, where appropriate
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ . Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .
Course Fees	Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i. The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii. The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Karl Hodge
Your Academic Advisor	Level 4: Dave Devenport / Chris Brennan Level 5: Les Rowley / Taylor Umland Level 6: Taylor Umland
Your Course Administrator	Faizah Ahmed (JournalismAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

Students undertake work experience placements in the H5 module "Employability in Sports Media". Students will seek their own placements, supported by local networks and contacts within the course.

Length

15 days

Location

UK

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

N/A

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- Offer students a thorough grounding in multimedia journalism skills, from research and reporting to dissemination and promotion, with a clear and consistent emphasis on the specialist area of sports journalism.
- Introduce students to look at sports journalism as a “patch” within the wider context of journalism as a practice, learning how to produce content within ethical, legal and institutional constraints and influences.
- Encourage students to develop a historical and theoretical understanding of journalism, seeing sports journalism as part of vocation with a rich past and challenging future. They will consider and create content for traditional and emerging platforms as part of this process.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the practice and underlying principles of contemporary sports journalism, including principles of fairness and accuracy, key ethical, regulatory and legal concerns and be critical of the efficacy of their own practice.
- 2 Apply their knowledge and skill in the production of sports journalism across multiple platforms of news gathering and dissemination, demonstrating professional standards – and have had multiple opportunities to do so within real and simulated work situations.
- 3 Understand sports journalism and its methods, contexts and concepts from a theoretical perspective and describe and comment upon particular aspects of advanced scholarship and practice within the discipline.
- 4 Demonstrate digital and technical literacy, presentation skills, problem solving, story spotting, an awareness of news values, and an ability to synthesise all these skills to communicate with specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- 5 Work on more than one project at a time and manage those projects effectively whether in groups or as individuals, and exercise initiative and personal responsibility in the execution and management of their work.
- 6 Apply critical thinking and reflection to their academic work and vocational practice in contexts that require the evaluation of relevant arguments, data and sources whether primary or secondary – and recognise the relative values of these in context.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

BA (Hons) Sports Journalism has been developed to incorporate self-managed learning and prepare students for complex, dynamic, globally-relevant sports communication environments. It is a powerful approach to dealing with problem solving in a realistic way, empowering students with skills that will help them in industry.

The course incorporates a variety of learning and teaching strategies that puts the student at the centre of the experience. They are encouraged to learn in action, applying critical thinking and evaluation to practical and academic work.

The design of BA (Hons) Sports Journalism integrates learning vertically and horizontally – with themes feeding across modules and forwards to future learning. We emphasise to students that modules are part of a whole course and that learning is holistic. There is a clear progression of learning outcomes through all three levels that can be traced through our level outcomes and module specifications.

Students will be encouraged to value the contributions of their peers, for example during tutorial discussions and student presentations to the group.

BA (Hons) Sports Journalism is a community of people as well as a course. We support this in several ways. We have our public facing website Leeds Now, which also has a social media presence. We keep in touch with students through social media pages too.

In addition, induction at all levels prepares students for a new level of study. At level 4, students are set a writing task that not only works as an icebreaker, but also allows tutors to assess writing skills and identify areas where students need support. At levels 5 and 6, emphasis at induction will be on consolidation of skills both academic and practical, and the development of a professional portfolio through work experience.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable. The structures below are indicative and the order in which modules are studied may be adapted.

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Contemporary Issues in Sport (20 credits)	Y	Ethics and Sports Journalism (20 credits)	Y
Foundations of Sports Reporting (20 credits)	Y	Audio/Visual Sports Reporting (20 credits)	Y
Digital Publishing for Sports Journalism (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Media Law (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Digital Newsdays for Sports Journalism (20 credits)	Y	PR for Journalists (20 credits)	Y
Sport Broadcasting (20 credits)	Y	Multimedia Sports Journalism (20 credits)	Y
Writing Sports Features (20 credits)	Y		
Employability in Sports Media (20 credits) (year-long module)			Y

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Magazine Production (20 credits)	Y	Portfolio Production (20 credits)	Y
Sports Journalism in Practice (20 credits)	Y	Option (20 credits) from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photojournalism • Games Journalism and Communications 	N
Journalism Project (40 credits)			Y

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

Level 4 is assessed predominantly by coursework with some practical assessments.

Level 5 is assessed predominantly by coursework with some practical assessments.

Level 6 is assessed predominantly by coursework with some practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	260 hours	256 hours	195 hours
Independent Study	940 hours	824 hours	1005 hours
Placement		120 hours	

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team

can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.