



LEEDS
BECKETT
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Course Specification

BAH Sports Journalism

Course Code: BSPJO

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Sports Journalism (BSPJO)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 12/2025

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Sports Journalism
Contained awards	Bachelor of Sports Journalism (Level 6) Diploma of Higher Education Sports Journalism (Level 5) Certificate of Higher Education Sports Journalism (Level 4)
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and 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 and standard timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
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 are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

N/A

Accreditation/recognition summary

N/A

Work Placement Information

Summary

The course contains a modular placement. Students undertake work experience placements in the L5 module “Employability in Sports Media”. Students will seek their own placements, supported by local networks and contacts within the course.

Placement Delivery

The L5 module “Employability in Sports Media” includes 15-day placement

Location

UK

Approval

Whilst students source their own placements, they will need to meet requirements which will be outlined before module enrolment.

Timetable

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.

Key Contacts

Your course director

Karl Hodge

Your course administrator

Faizah Ahmed (JournalismAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

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.

Level 4

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Contemporary Issues in Sport	20	1
Sports Reporting	20	1
Digital Publishing	20	1
Ethics and Sports Journalism	20	2
Broadcast Sports Journalism	20	2
Introduction to Media Law	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Level 5

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Multimedia Sports Journalism	20	1
Sport Broadcasting	20	1
Writing Features	20	1
Employability in Sports Media	20	2
PR for Journalists	20	2
Futures: Reading the Media	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Level 6

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Magazine Production	20	1
Sports Journalism in Practice	20	1
Portfolio Production	20	2
Journalism Project	40	Year-Long
Number of credits of compulsory modules	100	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Photojournalism	20	2
Sports Magazine Newsdays	20	2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	20	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

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 examinations and 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	240 hours	195 hours
Independent study	940 hours	840 hours	1005 hours
Placement		120 hours	

