LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.
Information provided here was confirmed on 28/08/2026

General information

Programme code
MSJOU

Target award
If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
MSc Journalism

Delivery mode
✓ On campus
☐ Distance learning

Where you will study
The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Awarding body
Leeds Beckett University

Regulator
Office for Students

Level of qualification
Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration
If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:
12 months full-time (September Start)
16 months full-time (January Start)
24 months part-time (September Start)
28 months part-time (January Start)

Part-time study

This course can be studied part-time.

If you study the course part-time, it will usually take twice as long to complete compared with the equivalent full-time course. The modules may be delivered in a different sequence than on the full-time course, but you will study the same modules at each academic level. With the agreement of the course team, you may be able to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration.

Work placement

This course includes a compulsory placement module(s).

Students are recommended to undertake a minimum of two working weeks (10 days) of work experience in an editorial office (or similar) as part of the Level 7 Professional Journalism Development module. Students can take the option of working entire weeks (Monday to Friday) or to work a single day a week for 10 weeks or a bespoke mix. Each student will develop a personal experience plan with their tutor and help will be given with finding opportunities through a series of “industry masterclasses”.

If students opt to take the Final Journalism Project module this also contains a work experience element.

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning
If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

The master’s in journalism at Leeds Beckett offers the essential training to become an accomplished, professionally skilled journalist. Our programme, moreover, prepares our postgraduate students to be proficient, critically reflective practitioners who have the ability to tell important stories.

We have a wealth of industry experts with years of experience at titles such as The Guardian, BBC, News UK, Cosmopolitan, Elle and The Yorkshire Post (to name but a few) and a fraternity of visiting lecturers who bring in the latest news and ideas from the cutting-edge of media-practice.
We are favourably placed to deliver a distinctive programme. Leeds is a well-known, bustling city and the centre of a strong, regional and national media. Channel 4, the BBC, ITV and Johnson Press all have a presence here and over 20,000 people are employed within the expanding creative sector. This enables us to keep abreast of industry practices and involve contemporary practitioners in the design and delivery of the course.
While rooted in Leeds, our course attracts students from across the world and the course has a strong international perspective. The course is ideal for a range of careers, in the UK and beyond, for those that succeed, our growing alumni now work for a range of print and online operations, regional and national news organisations, big content providers like the BBC, as well as local start-ups and other communication posts, such as PR or working in a press office. In summary, MSc Journalism is a flexible, forward-thinking and internationally relevant course.
The MSc is designed to be adaptable. We teach all our workshops in weekly workshops taught in discreet blocks of time, making it easier to fit in other commitments, such as work or childcare, around the course.

Teaching and learning activities

You will develop a deep understanding of real-world journalism practice rooted in the authority of academia. Our students learn how to write well and tell compelling stories across a variety of platforms, as well as developing a range of analytical skills. Moreover, students undertake a weekly Professional Journalism Development module designed to get them a career in the media industry. There are weekly industry masterclasses, help with work placements and sessions devoted to getting published.
Each face-to-face session is supported by written course materials and online learning resources, which can be accessed remotely via MyBeckett. For each module the face-to-face delivery will be a two-to-three-hour mix of lecture and seminar, with workshop activities almost every week.
All subjects use MyBeckett for the sharing of subject materials; the use of discussion forums; links to online learning materials including online formative assessment. There is an information page that includes course information and employability resources. We also operate a student website showcasing the best student journalism work.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

The option modules listed may vary. Those listed here are likely to be offered in a typical year.

Level 7

Sept Start FT

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Reporting	15	1
Journalism Theory	15	1
Professional Journalism Development	15	1
Editing and Production	15	1
Feature Writing	15	2
International Perspectives on Media Law, Ethics & Regulation	15	2

Introduction to Broadcast Media	15	2
Investigative Storytelling	15	2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Option modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/teaching period**
Dissertation	60	YL
Final Journalism Project	60	YL
Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:	60	

Sept Start PT

Compulsory modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/ teaching period**
Reporting	15	Y1 S1
Journalism Theory	15	Y1 S1
Editing and Production	15	Y1 S1
Feature Writing	15	Y1 S2
International Perspectives on Media Law, Ethics & Regulation	15	Y1 S2
Professional Journalism Development	15	Y2 S1
Introduction to Broadcast Media	15	Y2 S2
Investigative Storytelling	15	Y2 S2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Option modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/ teaching period**
Dissertation	60	Y2 YL
Final Journalism Project	60	Y2 YL
Number of credits of compulsory modules	60	

Jan Start FT

Compulsory modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/ teaching period**
Feature Writing	15	1
International Perspectives on Media Law, Ethics & Regulation	15	1
Introduction to Broadcast Media	15	1
Investigative Storytelling	15	1
Reporting	15	2
Journalism Theory	15	2
Professional Journalism Development	15	2
Editing and Production	15	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Dissertation	60	YL
Final Journalism Project	60	YL
Number of credits of compulsory modules	60	

Jan Start PT

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Feature Writing	15	Y1 S1
International Perspectives on Media Law, Ethics & Regulation	15	Y1 S1
Investigative Storytelling	15	Y1 S1
Reporting	15	Y1 S2
Journalism Theory	15	Y1 S2
Introduction to Broadcast Media	15	Y2 S1
Professional Journalism Development	15	Y2 S2
Editing and Production	15	Y2 S2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	120	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Dissertation	60	Y2 YL
Final Journalism Project	60	Y2 YL
Number of credits of compulsory modules	60	

Assessment and feedback

The balance of assessment may change depending on which option modules you choose.

Level 7

This course is assessed mostly by coursework, with some practical assessments.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	295 hours
Independent study	1445 hours

Placement study	60 hours