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
MSPOJ

Target award
If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
MSc Sports 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
24 months part-time

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 required to plan for at least 10 days of work experience while studying the L7 Professional Journalism Development module. The module is geared towards helping students gain a foothold in the media industry. Students can take the option of working entire weeks (Monday to Friday); 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”.

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 aims of the course are:
To prepare students for a successful career in sports journalism, through networking opportunities, mentorship, and exposure to industry professionals, to enable students to work collaboratively and effectively in teams, and to develop leadership skills relevant to the sports media industry.
To develop students' journalistic skills, including researching, writing, editing, and producing multimedia content, to enable them to report on sports events in a variety of formats and to provide students with practical experience of working in a sports newsroom or media organisation, and to prepare them for the demands of the industry.

To foster an understanding of the ethical and legal considerations in sports journalism and how to navigate these issues in practice.
To encourage students to critically evaluate the role of sports journalism in society and its impact on culture, politics, and the economy.
To develop students' skills in data journalism and analysis, and the use of statistical tools to enhance sports reporting and storytelling.
To encourage students to engage with audiences through social media and other digital platforms, and to understand the importance of building a personal brand as a sports journalist.

Teaching and learning activities

Students on MSc Sports Journalism at Leeds Beckett can expect to learn through a combination of lectures, seminars, practical workshops, and guest speakers from the sports media industry. They will be expected to engage actively in class discussions and group work, and to develop critical thinking and analytical skills through a range of assignments, including practical projects (such as news reports and feature articles), multimedia projects and academic research papers.
In terms of academic support, students can expect to receive individual feedback from tutors and lecturers on their work, and to have access to academic resources, including a fully equipped newsroom and television and radio studios. They may also work with mentors from the sports media industry, who can provide guidance and advice on career development.
Skills delivery will be a key aspect of the course, with students learning to develop their journalistic skills, including research, writing, and multimedia production. They will also develop an understanding of data analysis and visualisation, social media engagement, and other key skills relevant to the sports media industry.
Students will be expected to undertake independent study to prepare for class discussions, complete assignments, and develop their own research projects. This will involve reading academic texts and industry publications (such as company annual reports), conducting interviews with athletes and other stakeholders, and staying up to date with current events and trends in the sports and news spheres. They will, moreover, be expected to take initiative in seeking out opportunities for work experience and networking within the industry.
Overall, students on MSc Sports Journalism can expect to be challenged academically, and to develop a range of skills that will prepare them for a successful career in the sports media. They will be supported by academic staff and industry experts but will also need to take responsibility for their own learning and personal development through independent study and engagement with the wider industry.

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 (FT)

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Reporting	15	1
Sports Journalism Theory	15	1
Professional Journalism Development	15	1

Introduction to Sports Media	15	1
Feature Writing	15	2
International Perspectives on Media Law, Ethics & Regulation	15	2
Introduction to Broadcast Media	15	2
Multimedia Sports Broadcasting	15	2
Sports Documentary	20	2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	140	

Option modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/teaching period**
Journalism Dissertation	40	2
Practical Project	40	2
Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:	40	

Level 7 (FT)

Compulsory modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/ teaching period**
Reporting	15	Y1 S1
Sports Journalism Theory	15	Y1 S1
Introduction to Sports Media	15	Y1 S1
International Perspectives on Media Law, Ethics & Regulation	15	Y1 S2
Introduction to Broadcast Media	15	Y1 S2
Multimedia Sports Broadcasting	15	Y1 S2
Professional Journalism Development	15	Y2 S1
Feature Writing	15	Y2 S2
Sports Documentary	20	Y2 YL
Number of credits of compulsory modules	140	

Option modules

Module title	**Credits**	**Semester/ teaching period**
Journalism Dissertation	40	Y2 YL
Practical Project	40	Y2 YL
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	40	

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	285 hours
Independent study	1255 hours
Placement study	60 hours