

Template C4



Programme Specification

Title of Course: *MA Magazine Journalism*

Date first produced	31/08/2012
Date last revised	09/05/2025
Date of implementation of current version	01/09/2025
Version number	12
Faculty	Kingston School of Art
Cross-disciplinary	
School	School of Creative and Cultural Industries
Department	Department of Journalism, Publishing and Media
Delivery Institution	Kingston University

This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes and content of each modules can be found in the course VLE site and in individual Module Descriptors.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Award(s) and Title(s):	MA Magazine Journalism
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	PgCert PgDip
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	PPMJO1MJO01 PFMJO1MJO01
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	

Award(s) and Title(s):	MA Magazine Journalism with Professional Placement
Exit Award(s) and Title(s):	
Course Code <i>For each pathway and mode of delivery</i>	
UCAS code <i>For each pathway</i>	

Awarding Institution:	Kingston University
Teaching Institution:	Kingston University
Location:	Penrhyn Road, Kingston University
Language of Delivery:	English
Delivery mode:	Primarily campus based (up to 20% of scheduled L&T hours delivered online)
Learning mode(s):	Part-time Full-time With Professional Placement
Minimum period of registration:	Part-time - 2 Full-time - 1 With Professional Placement - 2
Maximum period of registration:	Part-time - 4 Full-time - 2 With Professional Placement - 3

Entry requirements	<p>Kingston University typically uses a range of entry requirements to assess an applicant's suitability for our courses. Most postgraduate taught course requirements are based on having been awarded a relevant undergraduate degree and are normally coupled with minimum grades expectation of 2:2, specific courses in certain areas may have a stricter grade requirement. We may also use interview, portfolio and performance pieces to assess a person's suitability for some courses. We recognise that every person's journey to a postgraduate taught education is different and unique and in some cases we may take into account work experience and other non-standard pathways onto University level study. Additionally, all non-UK applicants must meet our English language requirements. Please see our course pages on the Kingston University website for the most up to date entry requirements.</p>
Regulated by	The University and its courses are regulated by the Office for Students
Programme Accredited by:	National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ)
Approved Variants:	N/A
Is this Higher or Degree Apprenticeship course?	No

SECTION 2: THE COURSE

A. Aims of the Course

The general aims of the course are to:

- Equip students with the necessary skills to compete successfully for employment in the magazine journalism industry;
- Develop professional magazine journalism skills in researching, interviewing, writing, editing and designing to work across media platforms;
- Expand the necessary intellectual integrity and critical independence a student will need to function effectively as a magazine journalist;
- Create an informed and critical awareness of the forces and dynamics (social, cultural, political, economic and technological) shaping the magazine industry and the working environment of magazine journalists today
- The 2-year programme with integrated placement(s) also provides students with an opportunity to enhance their professional skills, preparing them for higher levels of employment, further study and lifelong learning

Additional aims of the MA:

- Build team-working and other skills needed to work effectively in an editorial role;
- Foster a creative and self-reflective approach to students' own individual and collective practice as journalists
- Develop to an advanced level students' ability to carry out independent academic research;
- Develop to an advanced level students' ability to reflect critically on their own journalistic practice through work-based learning;
- Develop reporting skills and legal knowledge commensurate with the standards set by industry training councils.

B. Programme Learning Outcomes

The programme learning outcomes are the high-level learning outcomes that will have been achieved by all students receiving this award. They have been aligned to the levels set out in 'Sector Recognised Standards in England' (OFS 2022).

Programme Learning Outcomes					
	Knowledge and Understanding		Intellectual Skills		Subject Practical Skills
	On completion of the course students will be able to:		On completion of the course students will be able to		On completion of the course students will be able to
A6	the development of different kinds and forms of magazine journalism for different readerships;	B6	analyse current and emergent developments in the production and consumption of magazine journalism and apply that knowledge to their own practice;	C5	make both digital and print magazines through all aspects of production from flatplanning to printing;
A5	the processes linking the production, circulation and consumption of magazine journalism in contemporary society;	B5	think strategically to develop new publications and websites for identifiable markets;	C4	craft original editorial furniture including headlines and captions;
A3	strategic developments in print and online magazine markets and how these shape launch and closure decisions;	B4	recognise the strengths and weakness in their own writing and in that of others and use this recognition to inform their professional practice;	C3	pull pieces and feature packages together with pictures, layout and graphics;
A2	the different individual roles in magazine journalism eg: editors, commissioning editors, feature writers, editorial assistants, art directors, publishers;	B2	demonstrate an effective professional news sense and the ability to use it to create effective pieces of magazine journalism;	C2	developing a repertoire of writing styles and find the right tone and feature format for a story or a platform;
A1	key features of professional practice in a variety of settings and contexts, especially magazine journalism;	B1	identify a story and its potential market;	C1	research, interview and use a variety of sources of information to write original, clear, accurate copy;

A4	the ways in which current developments in magazine journalism can be understood in relation to technological change;	B3	originate and communicate feature ideas;	C6	working with others in an editorial team to choose appropriate content, commission writers and photographers and produce finished print or web pages for public consumption;
A7	organise and undertake a significant work placement in the magazine journalism industry and reflect on that experience in a purposeful and meaningful way	B7	adapt to the needs of differing audiences and editorial objectives	C7	write for both print and online media, with the ability to adapt the content and style of their writing to satisfy the demands of an increasingly convergent journalism industry;
		B8	engage critically with debates and issues related to magazine journalism	C8	identify the demands of different audiences and readerships and use this information to develop appropriate strategies for new launches and projects;
		B9	autonomously combine information and experience to produce innovative thinking and solutions;	C9	produce publishable work to tight deadlines;
		B10	self-evaluate and structure critical reflections on work-based learning;	C10	revise their work and the work of others through the process of drafting, proof-reading, sub-editing and rewriting;
		B11	identify a topic worthy of sustained research, carry out research and complete a	C11	use industry-standard software to design and produce content for print and web pages;

			dissertation to an advanced academic and professional standard;		
		B12	critically reflect on their own journalistic practice and the current state of the magazine industry in order to complete a work-based learning project to an advanced academic and professional standard	C12	build up a portfolio of journalistic work for potential employers;
				C13	negotiate with employers and network with contacts to identify job opportunities in magazine journalism;
				C14	carry out in-depth independent research and write up a substantial dissertation to an advanced academic and professional standard;
				C15	produce a significant portfolio of publishable journalism.
				C16	demonstrate professional skills (including self-presentation, communication, interpersonal/teamwork, research and information literacy, numeracy, time-management and project-planning, management and leadership skills, and ethical practice).

--	--	--	--	--	--

C. Future Skills Graduate Attributes

In addition to the programme learning outcomes, the programme of study defined in this programme specification will engage students in developing their Future Skills Graduate Attributes:

1. Creative Problem Solving
2. Digital Competency
3. Enterprise
4. Questioning Mindset
5. Adaptability
6. Empathy
7. Collaboration
8. Resilience
9. Self-Awareness

D. Outline Programme Structure

Full details of each module will be provided in module descriptors and in the module canvas pages.

MA Magazine Journalism

Level 6							
MA Magazine Journalism							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Optional Modules							
Media Specialism	CT6001	30	6	Year Long		1	1

Exit Awards at Level 6

Level 7							
MA Magazine Journalism							
Core modules	Module code	Credit Value	Level	Teaching Block	Pre-requisites	Full Time	Part Time
Creating Magazines -	JO7014	30	7	Year long			

Content and Context							
Feature Writing	JO7006	30	7	Year long			
Journalism in Context: Law, Ethics and the Industry	JO7002	30	7	Year long			
Shorthand (Postgraduate)	JO7004	0	7	NCTJ exam			
Optional Modules							
MA Journalism Dissertation	JO7010	60	7	May to September		2	2
Practical Journalism Project	JO7009	60	7	May to September		2	2
Professional Placement	HU7100	120	7	TB3(Yr 1) and TB1&TB2 (Yr 2)			

Exit Awards at Level 7

Students exiting the programme with 60 credits are eligible for the award of PgCert in Magazine Journalism.

Students exiting the programme with 120 credits are eligible for the award of PgDip in Magazine Journalism.

MA Magazine Journalism with Professional Placement

E. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

This course uses a range of teaching and assessment methods which have been designed to support students' learning and achievement of the learning outcomes. The course has been developed with reference to the Kingston University Academic Framework which sets-out core principles relating to Course and Credit Structure (including Module delivery Structure and Pattern, and Learning Hours and Learning Formats); Curriculum Design (inclusion Learning Design Principles and Inclusive Curriculum); and Future Skills.

Teaching and Learning on the course consist of Scheduled Learning and Teaching and Guided Independent Study (self-managed time). Scheduled Learning and

Teaching includes the following, and the format for each module is set out in the module specification:

- Laboratory Sessions
- Lectures
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Workshops
- Placements

Guidance for students on the use of independent study time is communicated through the 'Succeed in your module' section on the Canvas Virtual Learning Environment and through other communications during the course.

In addition to the core Scheduled Learning and Teaching activities for the course, the University may offer students additional optional opportunities for learning. Examples of these include Study abroad and Work-based learning.

The course will provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills relating to at least two United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). We are committed to empowering students with the knowledge, skills and opportunities to understand and address the UN SDGs: each course is thus also required to prepare students for at least two of the SDGs (not including Quality Education, which all courses must deliver).

F. Support for Students and their Learning

Students are supported through a range of services that provide academic and wider support. These include:

- A Module Leader for each module
- A Course Leader to help students understand the course structure
- Personal Tutors to provide academic and personal support
- Technical support to advise students on IT and the use of software
- Student Voice Committee – to ensure the views of students are heard
- Canvas – Kingston University's Virtual Learning Environment
- Student support facilities that can provide advice on issues such as finance, regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support
- Disabled student support
- The Kingston Students' Union
- Student Development and Graduate Success

G. Ensuring and Enhancing the Quality of the Course

The University has policies and procedures for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of its provision. These include:

- Continuous Monitoring of courses through the Kingston Course Enhancement Programme (KCEP)

- Student evaluation including Module Evaluation Questionnaires (MEQs), the National Student Survey (NSS)
- Internal and external moderation of graded assignments

H. External Reference Points

External reference points which have informed the design of the course. These include:

- PSRB standards
- QAA Subject benchmarks
- Other subject or industry standards

I. Development of Course Learning Outcomes in Modules

This table maps where programme learning outcomes are **summatively** assessed across the **core** modules for this course. It provides an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the course aims, a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the course progresses and a checklist for quality assurance purposes.

Module Code		Level 6	Level 7						
		CT6001	JO7002	HU7100	JO7004	JO7009	JO7014	JO7010	JO7006
Knowledge & Understanding	A6								
	A5								
	A3	S							
	A2				S				
	A1								
	A4	S							
	A7								
Intellectual Skills	B6								S
	B5								
	B4	S					S		S
	B2	S							S
	B1								S

	B3		S						S
	B7								
	B8								
	B9								
	B10								
	B11								
	B12								
Practical Skills	C5								
	C4						S		
	C3						S		
	C2						S		S
	C1						S		S
	C6					S			
	C7								
	C8								
	C9								
	C10								
	C11								
	C12								
	C13								
	C14								
	C15								
	C16								

Students will be provided with formative assessment opportunities throughout the course to practise and develop their proficiency in the range of assessment methods utilised.

Additional Information