STATE-OF-THE-ART: TODAY’S MEDIA INDUSTRY

Journalism is more than an exciting and glamorous occupation. At its best, by informing what millions believe, holding power to account and challenging injustice, it reinforces the most cherished values of democratic societies. At its worst, it distorts and manipulates, so eroding trust and fostering prejudice. To survive in this challenging industry, journalists need to have professional multimedia skills as well as a solid academic and ethical background.

As new technology offers citizens unprecedented access to information, journalism confronts intriguing new challenges. Traditional media power is facing competition from citizen journalism and the anarchic democracy of the internet. New skills are at a premium as news migrates to mobile telephones and tablets, video and podcasts proliferate, and blogging expands to do battle with conventional commentary.

The news industry is in a period of revolutionary change. Serious journalism about public affairs must compete for attention with an expanding supply of infotainment. Distinctions between broadcasting and printing are disappearing.

There is no longer a single public sphere. Sport, celebrity and the arts claim places alongside politics, economics and diplomacy as topics deserving coverage.

In the past, few successful British journalists were formally qualified. To become a doctor or lawyer required rigorous academic and professional training, but many reporters simply muddled through, exercising power without reflection or responsibility.

Now, to serve the public properly, top reporters, correspondents and columnists need excellent vocational skills and highly trained minds.

In a world hungry for accurate information and analysis about issues ranging from global warming to share prices and football to fashion, the amateur ethos is inadequate. The modern media market is fast-moving and ultra-competitive. Responsible reporting requires professional multimedia journalists equipped with cutting-edge academic, vocational and ethical skills. Kent’s innovative programmes train and nurture the journalists of the future.

“Many of the most talented people want to be multimedia journalists. They have drive, ambition, intellectual curiosity and creativity that can’t be satisfied in any other profession.”

Tim Luckhurst
Professor of Journalism
The Centre for Journalism at Kent is leading the development of journalism as an academic discipline rooted in professional newsroom practice. Our postgraduate programmes offer you the opportunity to research and learn in an environment that combines excellence in the practice of convergent, multimedia journalism with intellectual leadership in the history, ethics and the future of the news industry.

**Comprehensive teaching**

Our Master’s programme in Multimedia Journalism embraces convergent multimedia skills from the beginning. Through lectures, seminars and newsroom tutorials, you learn about the history of journalism, its love-hate relationship with political power and its ability to influence and reflect popular culture. You also study the ethics of journalism and specialist techniques, including investigative reporting, feature writing, live broadcasting and writing for the web.

**Practical application**

The taught MA places great emphasis on the practical reality of journalism. You have opportunities to put your vocational and academic learning to use in regular newsroom exercises and work placements in the news industry. There is also a campus newspaper to which students contribute and the University shares a full-time community radio licence based in Canterbury, offering opportunities to practise broadcast journalism.

**Wide-ranging supervision**

The range of research and professional interests within the Centre for Journalism means we can offer a wide scope for supervision of research projects leading to degrees of MA, MPhil and PhD. The Centre is based within the University’s Faculty of Social Sciences and enjoys strong links with other academic departments, including the School of History, Kent Law School and the School of Politics and International Relations. This encourages collaborative and interdisciplinary research and joint supervision.

**Expert tuition**

Studying in a live newsroom environment, complete with dedicated radio and television studios, your tutors are working reporters and columnists including former editors of national newspapers, foreign correspondents and web publishers. Their professional expertise is complemented throughout by excellent academic teaching and debate led by leading historians, political scientists and lawyers.

**Professional accreditation**

We are proud to be accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ), the charity that works to ensure excellence in the education of journalists. It is a nationally recognised training body for professional journalists and its qualifications are respected by employers throughout the UK. The NCTJ describes the MA in Multimedia Journalism as an ambitious course, taught by “excellent staff members who are committed to high standards of professional multimedia journalism”.

The degree is also accredited by the Broadcast Journalism Training Council (BJTC).

Using the Medway towns as your laboratory, you carry out real-time news assignments around locations including a medieval cathedral, historic warships and 21st-century dockside developments. The news beat is alive with new enterprises and communities, and connections to continental Europe via the Channel Tunnel are fast and convenient. Medway offers countless opportunities to practise the convergent skills of broadcast, print and online reporting.
Excellent facilities
The Centre is based in state-of-the-art multimedia newsrooms equipped with the latest audio and video-editing technology, two radio studios and broadcast-quality television facilities. A dedicated postgraduate newsroom opened in September 2010. Superb Apple iMac workstations in our newsrooms offer a wide range of software for teaching and research support. Students have access to Press Association news wires, Sky News Radio and Reuters World Television News feeds.

Our dedicated multimedia website, www.centreforjournalism.co.uk, offers live publishing facilities in text, audio and video. The site is a forum for debate about issues in journalism and the news industry involving students and practitioners in Britain and abroad.

Academic resources
Kent’s Medway campus is based around listed buildings dating back to 1903 and now combined with striking modern architecture and interiors. Academic facilities include the Grade II-listed Drill Hall Library, which is well-stocked with books, journals and a range of electronic information. You have access to a range of support services such as IT support, library support, and public PCs and printers. There is wireless internet access throughout these areas and the Library houses a café, a social learning zone and four techno booths. The Library also runs a netbook and laptop computer loan scheme.

Industry links
Centre staff maintain excellent connections with local, national and international media organisations. Students on the MA in Multimedia Journalism undertake guaranteed work placements with the Kent Messenger Group and you have regular access to working journalists.

Through social events, seminars and masterclasses, there are frequent opportunities to question visiting professional journalists and to hear their views on editorial and ethical controversies. Recent visitors have included: Allan Little, BBC correspondent; Sarah Ivens, formerly of OK! Magazine; Gavin Esler, writer and presenter; Jon Snow, presenter of Channel 4 News; and Mark Thompson, former Director General of the BBC.

Dynamic publishing culture
Staff regularly contribute to newspapers, magazines, journals and books. These have included: This is Today – A Biography of the Today Programme; Afghanistan, War and the Media; Face the Future: Tools for the Modern Media Age; and Mirage in the Desert? Reporting the ‘Arab Spring’ (Tim Luckhurst); Journalism Studies; Ethical Space; British Journalism Review; Parliamentary Affairs; The Guardian; Media History; The Political Quarterly; The Daily Telegraph; The Independent; The Times; Sunday Telegraph; The Globe and Mail (Canada); Los Angeles Times; The New Republic; The Word; Prospect.

Funding
The Daily Mail Scholarship offers one student per year on the MA in Multimedia Journalism £5,000 and a work placement at the Daily Mail. Details are available at www.kent.ac.uk/journalism/Funding.html

The University of Kent has established a generous studentship fund to support research students. The studentships cover tuition fees at the Home/EU rate and, depending on the terms and conditions of the award, a maintenance grant up to the full Research Councils’ rate.

DID YOU KNOW?
The Centre for Journalism’s website is central to the department’s culture, providing a publishing platform for students, a teaching resource and a discussion forum for the industry.
Professor Tim Luckhurst: Professor of Journalism; Head of the Centre for Journalism

Tim is a former editor of *The Scotsman* and former BBC News and Current Affairs editor. His research interests include the history of journalism and, in particular, the reporting of conflict from the Spanish Civil War to the present day. He is the author of *This is Today – A Biography of the Today Programme* and *Responsibility without Power – Lord Justice Leveson’s Constitutional Dilemma*, and of essays including: “‘It is thrown against me that I have a castle’ – a portrait of newspaper coverage in the Central Southwark by-election, February 1940”; ‘Compromising the First Draft?’ and ‘Dr Hack, I presume? Liberal Journalism in the Multimedia Age’. He has written thousands of articles in publications ranging from *British Journalism Review* to the *Daily Mail*. Tim is a graduate in History of the University of Cambridge. His academic work has appeared in journals including *Journalism Studies*, *British Journalism Review* and *Ethical Space* and numerous newspapers and publications. Tim Luckhurst reporting for the *Today* programme at the end of the Gulf War

Professor Craig took his undergraduate degree at Macquarie University, Sydney, and has a Master’s degree in Journalism from Columbia University, New York. He completed his PhD at the University of Wales, Cardiff. Professor Craig worked as a correspondent for Reuters Australia and has taught at Murdoch University, the University of Canberra in Australia and most recently at the University of Otago in New Zealand. He leads the Centre for Journalism’s research strategy and is also responsible for the teaching of politics and political communications to students on the BA in Journalism and the News Industry and the MA in Multimedia Journalism.

He welcomes enquiries from prospective postgraduate students on any of these areas of research interest.

Ian Reeves: Director of Learning and Teaching

A former editor of *Press Gazette*, Ian was responsible for developing the Student Journalism Awards, the Magazine Design and Journalism Awards, and the innovative Press Cadets project. He was Weekly

“I was attracted to the course because of the impressive list of teaching staff. The lecturers are all practising journalists – they have knowledge and expertise in journalism that goes far beyond all the textbooks.”

Laura García-Rodríguez Blancas
MA Multimedia Journalism graduate
Lesley Phippen: Lecturer in Law and the Media

Originally qualified as a solicitor, Lesley has been teaching law for over 20 years on programmes for both professional and academic qualifications. In 2001, she joined Kent Law School as Director of Legal Studies. During her time there, Lesley developed a Media Law module and was the driving force behind the first cross-disciplinary conference at the Medway campus on Privacy and the Individual. Lesley moved to the Centre for Journalism in July 2010 to deliver the academic law teaching.

Gerardo Calia: Multimedia Newsroom Technician

After leaving school in 1987, Gerardo began an HND course in Broadcast Operations and Engineering at Ravensbourne College, Bromley. During the course, he was invited to join the BBC as a trainee ‘engineer-operator’ and enjoyed the next 20 years employed in a variety of roles, mainly in News and Current Affairs Television and Radio at TV Centre in London. Gerardo worked on programmes including the national news bulletins and summaries, Newsnight, Newsround, Frost on Sunday, Working Lunch and many others.

Richard Pendry: Lecturer in Broadcast and Online Journalism

Richard is a BAFTA Award-winning television producer with 20 years’ experience as a freelancer, working in documentaries, news and current affairs. During most of the 1990s, he was a member of Frontline News Television, an agency that specialised in reportage from war. A fluent Russian speaker, Richard filed stories for Frontline from all over the former Soviet Union, including Chechnya. He has recently been researching in the Caucasus and Iraq into how independent reporters gather news.

Rob Bailey: Lecturer in Reporting and Writing

Rob Bailey is a former news editor and chief reporter of the Kent Messenger in Maidstone, the country’s biggest-selling weekly weekday newspaper. He is a former KM Group reporter of the year. He joined the Kent Messenger as editorial assistant in September 1999 and took his first reporting job on the first UK paper founded in the new millennium, the Swanley Messenger. He went on to work on titles across Kent, including two stints at the Kent Messenger’s flagship Maidstone edition. He also worked as senior press officer for social services at Kent County Council. He is an alumnus of the University of Kent, having graduated with a BA in English and Philosophy in 1999.

Lee Kenny

Lee is an NCTJ-trained multi-platform journalist. He has worked as a reporter for The Press in Christchurch, New Zealand and for the Birmingham Mail. Before joining the Centre for Journalism, he was course leader for journalism degrees at the University of Wolverhampton. He has a Master’s degree in Contemporary Media and an MA in Film Studies. His research focuses on documentary film.

Business Writer of the Year in 2003’s Periodical Publishers Association awards. He continues to write about business and media, and has a particular interest in how technology is changing journalism. He designed the Centre for Journalism’s live publishing website and built the Centre’s unique iPad app – now available on the App Store.
**STUDENT PROFILES**

**Swati Tata is studying for the MA in Multimedia Journalism.**

**Why did you choose to study multimedia journalism at Kent?**

I have always wanted to train as a journalist and had studied journalism as part of my undergraduate studies back home in India. I was keen to complete a Master’s degree in the UK and was impressed by the University – Kent is ranked in the top 20 of UK universities.

The high student satisfaction rating was the main thing that attracted me to the Centre for Journalism. And when I read through the faculty profiles, I was really impressed – the lecturers are all practising journalists. The resources available are amazing and if I decide that I want to study for a PhD afterwards, there is provision for that here too.

**How are you finding the course?**

It’s excellent. I just love the variety of things we are able to do. From interviewing to reporting and filming to designing, we are taught the basics on everything. It’s an intense and challenging course but the lecturers are very approachable and they make the classes interactive. They share their professional experiences with us so you get an insight into the workings of the industry and the life of a journalist.

**What have you particularly enjoyed so far?**

I really like the British Public Affairs module. I find it interesting because I’ve never studied the topic before. I also love the daily new conferences where we all get together to discuss the news headlines that day.

**What about your fellow students?**

Students in the Centre for Journalism take their work very seriously – they are a determined and focused group.

**What about your employment prospects?**

I am pretty confident that I will be employed after completing the MA in Multimedia Journalism. As a student here, you learn so much more compared to those on other journalism courses and also have the opportunity to complete the NCTJ Diploma alongside the programme. This means we already have an advantage and are well prepared to step into a job.

**What’s next for you?**

I want to remain in the UK and work as a journalist. At the moment, I’m torn between print and broadcast journalism and would like to work for either *The Guardian* or the BBC. Eventually, I’d like to become a war correspondent and then go back home to India to utilise all the skills I have developed.

**What advice can you offer potential students of this course?**

If you are coming to do the MA, you need to be prepared to put in a lot of time and effort because it’s going to be hard work. But if you want to train as a journalist, there is no better place to do it than at Kent.
Sarah Perryman is also studying for the MA in Multimedia Journalism.

What attracted you to this course?
I had always planned to go on to postgraduate study. Though I initially considered studying publishing or PR, I ended up deciding that an MA in Multimedia Journalism suited my interests better and would afford me more versatile skills in the long run.

Why did you choose to study at Kent?
I was considering other universities, but once I had spoken to Tim Luckhurst (Head of the Centre for Journalism), I couldn’t see myself anywhere else. I was so impressed that he not only took the time to answer all my questions, but he also gave me a tour of the campus and showed me the resources on offer. To me, it seemed like a great sign of a supportive culture within the faculty. I wasn’t wrong – they’re fantastic.

What are you particularly enjoying?
How much I’ve learned so far. Almost everything that we’ve covered in classes has been entirely new to me, so I feel as though I’m not just rehashing things I studied previously. I love that we are being taught to use programs like Adobe Creative Suite and have been put in real-life situations – for example, on news days, where we are expected to put together a radio programme or newspaper in four hours.

My undergraduate degree in Writing and Publication Studies was very heavy in theory and very light on actual practice. While I’ve always felt that strong, varied theoretical knowledge is important, the practicality of this MA provides me with the opportunity to round out that theory with application.

How do you find the teaching?
I couldn’t ask for better teachers. They are all so passionate and willing to help you achieve your goals. They ask a lot of you but they are also understanding of how demanding the course is.

What about your fellow students?
Everyone gets along famously. We’re all really different, but somehow it works well and there is always someone there to help or study with.

How have you found the facilities?
Wonderful! So far, I’ve not had an issue because of lack of resources. Between the newsroom and the library, we have everything we need.

How will your studies affect your employment prospects?
I think the fact that the programme is NCTJ accredited will really help me, especially since I’m not British. Even if I end up going back to the US, by the end of the programme I will have amassed a sizable portfolio that has not only been examined by an academic institution, but a professional one as well. I believe leaving with a strong portfolio greatly enhances my employability as do the skills I have learnt here. I have only been here for around three months, but I can already see a huge improvement in the clarity and quality of my writing.

What are you planning to do next?
Ideally, I’d like to start at a regional news organisation in the UK and work my way up. If that doesn’t work out, I will likely go back to the US and try to find a job in either radio or television broadcasting.

What advice can you offer potential students of this course?
If journalism is something you’re really interested in, do it. The only real prerequisite is interest. Just know that the course is a lot of work. But it’s worth it. The people in your class will make it bearable, even fun, and the support that you receive from the teaching staff will make it possible.
**IMPRESSIONIC CAREER PROSPECTS**

Kent has an excellent record for postgraduate employment: over 90% of our postgraduate students who graduated in 2012 found a job or further study opportunity within six months.

A postgraduate qualification in journalism from Kent opens up a wealth of career opportunities by providing an impressive portfolio of skills, practical experience and specialist knowledge.

**Exciting career options**

The proliferation of digital television and radio channels, websites and newspapers means Britain has never had more news providers than it has today. From the BBC to local free newspapers, journalists are working round the clock to supply important, vigorous and entertaining stories.

Awareness of media power has created numerous new opportunities for journalists in campaign and pressure groups, online information providers and corporate business. At the same time, rapid technological change has forced journalists to up their game, learning new techniques, mastering new skills and producing work faster than ever before.

Journalism has always been a highly competitive profession. The best and most exciting jobs attract highly qualified applicants with excellent vocational and academic qualifications. The Centre for Journalism aims to produce graduates with the skills, ambition and confidence to compete at the highest level.

**Transferable skills training**

A degree from Kent’s Centre for Journalism will prepare you to work across broadcast, print and online media. The skills you acquire include working under pressure to strict deadlines, writing accurate, balanced reports and analysing complex material. You learn to communicate with non-specialised audiences and to present your opinion coherently and with passion. These skills are highly sought after by employers in many fields.

In addition to the skills and knowledge you gain through your studies, work placements and networking opportunities, Kent provides a comprehensive package of skills training opportunities to help enhance your career prospects. The University’s Graduate School co-ordinates the Researcher Development Programme for research students, providing access to a wide range of lectures and workshops on training, personal development planning and career development skills. The Graduate School also delivers the Global Skills Award programme for students following taught programmes of study, which is specifically designed to consolidate your awareness of current global issues and improve your employment prospects.

**Careers advice**

Our Careers and Employability Service can help you to plan for your future by providing one-to-one advice at any stage in your postgraduate studies. It also offers online advice on employability skills, career choices, and applications and interview skills.

**Further information**

For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, visit our Employability web page at www.kent.ac.uk/employability
Matthew Mckew graduated from Kent in 2013 with an MA in Multimedia Journalism and is now a trainee reporter at a leading local newspaper.

What attracted you to studying journalism at Kent?
Journalism enlightens people and holds those in power to account. In order to be successful in this field, you need to be adaptable and Kent’s Multimedia Journalism course provides in-depth knowledge of four fields of journalism – online, print, TV and radio. I was also impressed by the layout of the postgraduate rooms, the experience of the lecturers and the radio and TV studios.

What did you particularly enjoy?
My favourite part of the course was broadcast. The fantastic facilities at Kent enable you to use the very latest technology while being taught by some of the best in the industry. I also really enjoyed the news days where you are given the opportunity to try out what you have learnt while under the pressures and constraints of a real-life newsroom. The experience was invaluable when it came to starting out in my first job.

How would you describe the teaching?
The teaching could sometimes be fast paced, but the staff are aware of the pressures faced by students on the course and were more than accommodating. Each lecturer has a vast amount of experience in their specialist field and makes you feel part of a team.

How did you fund your studies?
I was a recipient of the Daily Mail Scholarship, which included a month’s work experience with the most-read newspaper in the UK. The experience I gained meant that I was able to go straight from my course into my first job. Securing the scholarship also enabled me to cover the fees associated with further study.

How did postgraduate study differ from your experience as an undergraduate?
A further degree allows greater specialisation and the ability to hone skills for a future career. It opens the door to more career opportunities and can combine well with your previous degree to take you down a different path.

What are you doing now?
I am now a trainee reporter at the Isle of Wight County Press. I start each day with a look at the diary. I then make phone calls and act on tip-offs to generate news stories. Occasionally, I am able to get out of the office to chase news stories on foot. I am also assigned one night job per week, which can be a council meeting or reviewing a local theatre show. Only one reporter will be on duty, which means you have to keep on top of all the news associated with the emergency services – this can include being woken up at 2am to be told the fire service is out on an important job.

What’s next for you?
I want to continue to gain valuable experience in local journalism before progressing to national news outlets, hopefully in a broadcasting role. Alongside my job, I am currently training as a radio presenter at the local hospital radio station.

What advice can you offer potential students of this course?
Students who are considering Kent should make sure they have a genuine interest in journalism and a desire to do well. This course demands a lot of commitment and is not for the faint-hearted.
MA MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM

The MA in Multimedia Journalism is an intensive one-year programme. It is designed to recruit candidates with an excellent first degree in a relevant subject (such as history, politics, law or English literature), an unambiguous commitment to journalism and a demonstrable aptitude for the profession.

The programme teaches multimedia journalism to postgraduate students aspiring to build careers in national and international news organisations, magazines and regional media. You learn to report for newspapers, websites, radio and television in a live newsroom environment. Using state-of-the-art technology and working to real deadlines, you upload your work to the internet. Every day begins with an editorial conference and the programme balances intense focus on journalism as practical reality with intense academic study.

Students can follow one of two pathways:
- Multimedia Journalism MA – taught

The Centre also offers an MA in International Multimedia Journalism. This course, which is taught alongside the MA in Multimedia Journalism, is tailored to the needs of European and overseas graduates. Full details are available at www.kent.ac.uk/journalism

Course content
- British Public Affairs
- Journalism Law, Ethics and Regulation
- Practical Multimedia Journalism
- Reporting

plus two modules chosen from the following:
- Advanced Multimedia Storytelling
- Communication and Humanitarianism
- Database Journalism
- History of Journalism 1500-2000
- Political Reporting
- Reporting Conflict
- Sports Journalism

or
- Dissertation.

Teaching and assessment
Journalism is demanding as well as fun and your progress is assessed throughout the Master’s programme by methods including newsroom exercises, tests and observation of your technical and teamworking skills. Theoretical and academic analysis is taught through traditional lectures and seminars. Practical teaching takes place in the newsroom. You sit a combination of academic and vocational exams, submit essays and portfolios of journalism, and make seminar presentations. The option to complete a 10,000-word dissertation permits you to advance your skills in academic research.

NCTJ Diploma in Journalism examinations
You will also receive intensive, compulsory tuition in Teeline Shorthand and prepare for the NCTJ Diploma in Journalism examinations in Essential Media Law, Essential Public Affairs, Multimedia Portfolio, Reporting and Shorthand.

Dissertation
Students following the dissertation pathway write a 10,000-word, research-based dissertation instead of taking taught elective modules. The dissertation counts for a third of the final grade.

Work placement
You spend a minimum of two weeks on work placement in a multimedia newsroom where you put to use in the workplace the professional and academic competencies acquired on the course. Placements are normally scheduled between June and September and are organised by the Centre for Journalism through a unique partnership with the Kent Messenger Group.

LOOKING FOR FUNDING?
Kent has a scholarship fund of £8.5m to support its postgraduates. For the latest information, please visit www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate
Taught modules

Advanced Multimedia Storytelling
Building on skills acquired in the compulsory modules, you learn advanced professional skills in the use of cameras, editing software and radio and television studio production facilities. Students work on digital multimedia journalism projects with support from staff. You study advanced use of multimedia authoring software, image manipulation software and print production facilities. You also study the cultural and professional impact of online technologies on planning, reporting, producing and disseminating news.

British Public Affairs
The module provides a comprehensive grounding in contemporary British politics, focusing on recent constitutional changes and political developments. It also gives an understanding and analysis of the way that democracy has evolved in the period of universal suffrage in the UK. It assesses the key issues facing democratic government and institutions within the UK, analysing the role of Europe, the challenges posed by devolution and recent parliamentary changes. There is some discussion of contemporary political behaviour, in particular the issue of political participation.

Communication and Humanitarianism
You study the changing patterns of foreign news coverage in the period since 1945, with particular reference to the developing world. Case studies of foreign disasters and media interpretation include Biafra, Ethiopia, Rwanda and the Asian Tsunami. You consider the role of citizen journalism in the coverage of faraway disasters and the media understandings of aid efforts and humanitarian intervention. You also learn about the emergence and growth of NGOs, their use of marketing and communication techniques, and the role of the media in raising awareness for charitable fundraising, including 24-hour news and the CNN effect.

Database Journalism
Beginning with CBS’s use of a computer to analyse 1952 election data and Detroit Free Press’s riot coverage of 1967, you study the most notable database journalism projects of the past 40 years, including the LA Times’s homicide map, Atlanta Journal-Constitution’s The Color of Money investigation and The Guardian’s parliamentary expenses follow-up. You learn about organisations including the National Institute for Computer-Assisted Reporting and study modern database journalism projects, including mySociety and EveryBlock. Topics covered include database structures, building simple databases using open-source technology, geo-location of news and the use of digital mapping. You also consider the ethics of database usage.
MA MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM (CONT)

History of Journalism 1500-2000
Studying the development of mass communications from the invention of the printing press to the age of YouTube, you learn about the relationship between journalism and political power. You explore ways in which government has sought to censor and repress free reporting and discover the ideas and technologies that set it free. The module involves close study of journalism during the First World War, in the era of the dictators and its role in the era of broadcast and online news.

Journalism Law, Ethics and Regulation
Topics covered include: concepts of press freedom; defamation – components and defences; privacy, copyright, breach of confidence; regulation and self-regulation of media; contempt of court; censorship.

Political Reporting
You learn how governments communicate and about parliamentary reporting practices. You explore how social media and the 24-hour news cycle are transforming political journalism and assess the merits and shortcomings of such technological and economic changes in the production of quality journalism.

Practical Multimedia Journalism
In this module, you enhance your developing reporting skills with the essential production techniques to publish your work in print and online, or broadcast it as video or audio. You learn all of these things while working on real stories, using state-of-the-art HD cameras, digital audio recorders, editing software and studio facilities.

Reporting
This module covers the following areas: different forms of journalism and their structure; distinguishing between comment, conjecture and fact; investigative reporting; the reporter’s sources; rewriting a news story for another medium, adding sound, pictures, links and interactive comments; working with User Generated Content; following a crime story/court trial through press, online and TV to see how it is covered; turning contents of official reports into various forms of journalism; textual analysis of the writing styles of groundbreaking journalists; study of common journalism transgressions.

Reporting Conflict
You study the development of conflict reporting from the newspaper, radio, photographic and newsreel journalism of the 1930s to the digital multimedia reporting of the 21st century. Through case studies of conflicts in Northern Ireland, Chechnya, the Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Spanish Civil War, you consider challenges facing war reporters including patriotism, propaganda and self-censorship. You investigate war as a severe test of journalistic integrity, from the role of the BBC in the Second World War to 24-hour news in the era of spin, rebuttal and black operations.

Sports Journalism
You study the development of sports journalism from the beginning of the 20th century and learn to produce detailed match reports within minutes of the final whistle. The skills taught include how to produce instant minute-by-minute updates of live sporting events.

“This is a great course. It puts you out into the field from the very beginning and helps you learn the skills you need to become a professional multimedia journalist. The lecturers are very supportive and the facilities are excellent.”

Simon Jayawardena, MA Multimedia Journalism
RESEARCH DEGREES

The Centre for Journalism provides a particularly rich and stimulating environment in which to conduct postgraduate research – the range of research and professional interests of our staff means we can offer a wide scope for the supervision of research degree projects.

Our research programmes
The Centre for Journalism offers the following research degree programmes:

• Journalism MA, MPhil, PhD.

The research programmes are best suited to those who have a clear and original idea of a topic that they would like to investigate in detail. The MA by Research can be taken on a one-year full-time basis or over two years part-time, and entails producing a 40,000-word thesis. The MPhil is a two-year full-time or three-year part-time programme. The PhD is available as either a three-year full-time or five-year part-time programme. Both the MPhil and PhD programmes demand a high level of research and analysis resulting in theses of 50,000 words (MPhil) or 80,000 words (PhD).

Supervision
The Centre is able to offer supervision on a wide range of topics and subject areas. For some guidelines as to who might be best suited for supervision, please refer to the Centre staff profile information on p6.

Research training
All first-year research students attend a Methodologies and Research Skills seminar. Through the Faculty of Social Sciences, the Centre provides training in methods of using sources and can assist in funding applications. In addition, research students benefit from the skills training offered by the University’s Graduate School – see www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool for details.

Research resources
The resources for journalism research at Kent are led by the Drill Hall Library at Medway. The Library is well stocked with printed books and journals and provides access to a range of electronic information. The journalism collection includes a comprehensive range of texts on the history, principles and practice of journalism. Specialist resources include a complete microfiche archive of popular newspapers of the Second World War. Students can access online full-text journals plus extensive online newspaper resources. The Centre subscribes to all relevant UK journals. Research students can also access the SCONUL scheme to visit and borrow from other UK libraries.
APPLYING TO KENT

Entry requirements

Multimedia Journalism MA
You must hold a minimum of a 2.1 honours degree or equivalent in a relevant academic subject (e.g., politics, history, English, international relations) and have a demonstrable interest in and aptitude for journalism. Suitably qualified applicants will be invited to attend a compulsory 30-minute interview and will be required to sit a two-hour entrance test covering English, news writing and current affairs knowledge. Native-standard English is required. In certain circumstances, the Centre will consider candidates who have not followed a conventional education path. These cases are assessed individually by the Head of Centre and/or the Director of Learning and Teaching.

Journalism MA, MPhil, PhD
You must hold a minimum of a 2.1 honours degree or equivalent in a relevant academic subject. In certain circumstances, the Centre will consider candidates who have not followed a conventional education path, for example, working or former journalists who have acquired a minimum of three years’ professional experience in the news industry. These cases are considered individually.

For more information on requirements for international qualifications, visit www.kent.ac.uk/internationalstudent/country

English language
The University requires all non-native speakers of English to reach a minimum standard of proficiency in written and spoken English before beginning a postgraduate degree.

For postgraduate programmes in the Centre for Journalism, you should provide us with an IELTS certificate with a minimum score of 7.5, including 7.0 in reading, writing, listening and speaking, or an acceptable equivalent.

Only English language tests taken up to a maximum of two years prior to the date of registration will be accepted for admission to the University. Please note that if your university studies have been completed entirely in English, you may be exempt from providing an English test certificate. Please contact International Development for clarification (www.kent.ac.uk/internationalstudent/contact.html)
Come and visit us
Come along to our Medway campus to see what it’s like to be a student at the Centre for Journalism. We hold Selection Days for those who have already applied to Kent and we are pleased to welcome individual visitors by appointment.

Journalism Selection Days
Journalism interviews and tests are held on postgraduate Selection Days during which you tour the campus and the newsroom, meet students and staff of the Centre for Journalism, and have ample opportunity to ask questions about your intended programme of study and life at the University. Selection Days are normally held in June. They are attended by those who have their first degree result and who have already applied to the Centre for Journalism.

Contacts
If you have an enquiry in relation to a specific programme, or would like to know more about the teaching and research facilities available in the Centre for Journalism, please contact:

Professor Tim Luckhurst,
Head of the Centre for Journalism
T: +44 (0)1634 202913
E: t.luckhurst@kent.ac.uk

Ian Reeves,
Director of Learning and Teaching
T: +44 (0)1634 888970
E: i.reeves@kent.ac.uk

Centre for Journalism,
University of Kent,
Gillingham Building,
Chatham Maritime,
Kent ME4 4AG, UK
E: journalism@kent.ac.uk

Admissions enquiries
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
www.kent.ac.uk/pg
European connections
Kent is known as the UK’s European university. Our two main UK campuses, Canterbury and Medway, are located in the south-east of England, close to London, and we also have study locations in Brussels, Paris, Athens and Rome.

We have a diverse, cosmopolitan population with 140 nationalities represented. We also have strong links with universities in Europe, and from Kent, you are around two hours away from Paris and Brussels by train.

World-leading research
A great deal of the University of Kent’s research has been ranked as world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour, according to the Government’s most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE, 2008). Kent staff were found to be engaged in research of international and world-class standing.

Strong academic community
At Kent, our postgraduate students are part of a thriving intellectual community that includes staff and students from all our locations. In addition to lectures, seminars and one-to-one supervisions, our students benefit from a rich and stimulating research culture.

A global outlook
Kent has a great international reputation, attracting academic staff and students from around the world. Our academic schools are engaged in collaborative research with universities worldwide and we offer a range of opportunities to study abroad and an approach that is truly global.

The Graduate School
As a postgraduate student, you also have the support of the Graduate School, which promotes your academic interests, co-ordinates the Researcher Development Programme and the Global Skills Award, and facilitates cross-disciplinary interaction and social networking.

Funding
Kent provides a variety of financial support opportunities for postgraduate students. These range from research studentships, location-specific funding, sport and music scholarships, and funding specifically for overseas fee-paying students. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/pgfunding

Enhanced career prospects
At Kent, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. During your studies, you acquire a high level of academic knowledge and specialist practical skills. We also help you to develop key transferable skills that are essential within the competitive world of work.

Further information
For information about applying to Kent, or to order a copy of the Graduate Prospectus, please contact:

The Recruitment and Admissions Office, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ, UK
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
F: +44 (0)1227 827077
www.kent.ac.uk/pg

The University also holds Open Days and postgraduate recruitment events throughout the year. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays
Terms and conditions: the University reserves the right to make variations to the content and delivery of courses and other services, or to discontinue courses and other services, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary. If the University discontinues any course, it will endeavour to provide a suitable alternative. To register for a programme of study, all students must agree to abide by the University Regulations (available online at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations).

Data protection: for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons, the University needs to process information about its students. Full registration as a student of the University is subject to your consent to process such information.
COME AND VISIT US

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For more information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/opendays