1. **Title of the module**

JOUR8150 (JN815) Political Reporting

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Centre for Journalism

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

MA Multimedia Journalism

MA in International Multimedia Journalism

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 Demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical awareness of key features of the structural relationship between the fields of politics and journalism, drawing on relevant academic literature and recent debates across fields of study in journalism, politics, communication and discourse analysis.

8.2 Acquire a detailed knowledge about source influence models and be able to critically evaluate debates about the merits of particular models in the student’s own research and advanced scholarship.

8.3 Acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the recent historical evolution of governmental communication processes and parliamentary reporting practices and be able to critically reflect on the ramifications of such developments for contemporary political engagement and participation

8.4 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of how social media and the 24-hour news cycle are transforming political journalism and be able to critically assess the merits and shortcomings of such technological and economic changes in the production of quality journalism.

8.5 Acquire detailed knowledge about language use and the exercise of power relations in interrogative encounters between journalists and politicians and also demonstrated high level skills in textual analysis

8.6 Acquire a comprehensive knowledge of advanced scholarship across a range of relevant disciplines on journalistic framings of political leadership and public opinion in political reporting

8.7 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the complex interplay between news and opinion in political reporting and evaluate such changes in the contexts of the contributions of journalism to the democratic health of a society.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

9.1 Demonstrate a systematic understanding and critical awareness of the key concepts and theories in academic literature across a range of relevant academic disciplines

9.2 Critically evaluate knowledge of relevant concepts and theories and demonstrate a degree of originality in the formulation, framing and execution of textual analysis projects

9.3 Comprehensively implement research and writing skills in individual written work

9.4 Comprehensively implement oral communication skills in group study contexts

9.5 Exercise independent learning skills and organise their study in an efficient and professional manner.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module examines the reporting practices of political journalists, the institutional contexts of political journalism, and the interactions between journalists and sources across different forms of political reportage. It assesses the power of governmental communication, and the changing nature of contemporary political journalism. Forms of political reportage that will be investigated include: parliamentary reporting, political commentary, interviews and press conferences, and the role of social media in political reportage.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Benson, R. & Neveu, E. (2005) (eds.) Bourdieu and the Journalistic Field. Malden, MA: Polity.

Clayman, S. & Heritage, J. (2002) The News Interview: Journalists and Public Figures on the Air. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cook, T.E. (2005) Governing With the News: The news media as a political institution. 2nd edn. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Cottle, S. (ed.) (2003) News, Public Relations and Power. London: Sage.

Craig, G. (2004) The Media, Politics and Public Life. Sydney: Allen & Unwin.

Franklin, B. (2004) Packaging Politics: Political Communications in Britain’s Media Democracy. 2nd edn. London: Arnold.

Hargreaves, I. (2003) Journalism: Truth or Dare? Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Hirst, M., Phelan, S. & Rupar, V. (eds.) (2012) Scooped: The Politics and Power of Journalism in Aotearoa New Zealand. Auckland: AUT Media.

Kuhn, R. & Neveu, E. (eds.) (2002) Political Journalism: New challenges, new practices. London: Routledge.

McNair, B. (2000) Journalism and Democracy: An evaluation of the political public sphere. London: Routledge

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 24

Private Study Hours: 126

Total Study Hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Essay (4000 words) (30%)

Case Study (2000 words) (30%)

Examination (40%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like for Like

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lectures | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |  |  | X |  |
| Seminars | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |  |
| Private study |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay | X | X | X | X |  |  |  | X |  | X |  | X |
| Case Study |  |  |  |  | X | X | X |  | X | X |  | X |
| Exam | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |  | X |  | X |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Medway

1. **Internationalisation**

This module primarily focuses on political communication and news media in Britain. However, reflecting the fact that many of our students are international weekly lecture content and seminar discussion will regularly draw on examples of political communication from around the world. Students are also encouraged to make use of examples from countries other than Britain in their assignments.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
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Revised FSO Feb 2018