CENTRE FOR JOURNALISM

Medway
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
CENTRE FOR JOURNALISM AT KENT

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.

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’.

Perfect news beat
The Centre for Journalism is based at the University’s Medway campus. Located next to The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, this development blends historic character with modern teaching facilities and information technology. It is also close to central London: a high-speed service connects Chatham to London via Ebbsfleet.

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 campus newspaper to which students contribute and KMTV, the television news company for Kent, is based in the Centre.

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.

Wide-ranging supervision

Excellent facilities
television facilities. There is 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.

The Centre is also home to KMTV, the local television news service for the county of Kent. KMTV combines the University’s expertise and facilities with the KM Group’s extensive experience in multimedia broadcasting and offers work experience opportunities to students in the Centre.

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 have regular access to working journalists and can undertake work placements with employers such as the KM Group, BBC and Associated Newspapers.

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 books, journals, newspapers and magazines. 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*; * Mirage in the Desert? Reporting the ‘Arab Spring’*; *Contemporary British History*; *Journalism Studies*; *Ethical Space*; *British Journalism Review*; *Parliamentary Affairs*; *The Guardian; Media History; The Political Quarterly; The Daily Telegraph; The Independent; The Times; The Sunday Telegraph; The Globe and Mail (Canada); Los Angeles Times; The New Republic and The Word.*

**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 fund to support research students. The Vice-Chancellor’s Research Scholarships are offered at the standard UK Research Councils’ rate and administered under the Graduate Teaching Assistant Scheme. For details see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate/gta.html

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**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

A former editor of *The Scotsman* and former BBC News and Current Affairs editor, Tim’s research interests include the history of journalism and 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: ‘War Correspondents 1914-1918 in the *International Encyclopaedia of the First World War*’; ‘Compromising the First Draft?’; ‘Dr Hack, I presume? Liberal Journalism in the Multimedia Age’; ‘Excellent but Gullible People: The Press and the People’s Convention’; ‘Online and on death row: Historicising the newspapers in crisis’; and ‘An unworkable policy which encourages the enemy to fight to the last gasp: The depiction in British and American newspapers of the Allied policy of unconditional surrender for Germany 1943-1945.’

He has written for publications ranging from *Contemporary British History* to the *Daily Mail*. A graduate in History from the University of Cambridge, Tim’s academic work has appeared in journals including *Journalism Studies, Contemporary British History* and *Ethical Space*, newspapers and other publications. He is a director of KMTV, the television service for Kent, based at the Centre for Journalism.

Dr Ben Cocking: Director of Research

Ben joined the Centre in 2015 as Senior Lecturer and Director of Research. His recent publications include: a chapter on British travel journalism in *Travel Journalism: Exploring Production, Impact and Culture* (Palgrave) and articles in academic journals, such as *Journalism Studies* (Taylor and Francis) and *Studies in Travel Writing* (Routledge). He completed his undergraduate and Master’s degrees at Kent and his PhD, on British travel writing on the Middle East during the 1930s and 1940s. Before joining Kent, he was Principal Lecturer in Journalism and Media and Culture at the University of Roehampton. At Kent, he leads the Centre for Journalism’s research strategy and is responsible for the teaching of politics and political communications to students on the BA in Journalism and the MA in Multimedia Journalism. He is also involved in PhD supervision. His research interests include: travel journalism, news media and political communications, travel writing, cultural theory and postcolonial theory.

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 Business Writer of the Year in the Periodical Publishers Association (now the Professional Publishers Association) awards 2003. He writes about business and media issues for *The Guardian* and has written for *The Independent* and has a particular interest in digital media publishing. He designed and built the Centre for Journalism’s live publishing website at www.centreforjournalism.co.uk and the Centre’s unique iPad app, available from the App Store. He is Tim Luckhurst reporting for the *Today* programme at the end of the Gulf War.
lead author of the 5th edition of *The Newspapers Handbook* (Routledge 2014), co-editor of ‘What Do We Mean By Local? Grassroots Journalism – Its Death and Rebirth’ published by Abramis. He is a director of KMTV, the local television service for Kent, which is based in studios at the Centre for Journalism.

**Keith Somerville: Honorary Professor of Journalism**

Keith Somerville teaches modules in Communication and Humanitarianism and Propaganda – Media, Manipulation and Persuasion. A former BBC World Service journalist, he spent three decades reporting, presenting and editing BBC news programmes. He covered the first post-apartheid elections in South Africa and the attempted coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Keith is an expert in African affairs and the author of books including: *Africa’s Long Road Since Independence and Radio Propaganda and the Broadcasting of Hatred*. He is the founder and editor of the website Africa, News and Analysis. He has extensive experience of teaching journalism skills in the BBC College of Journalism.

**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. In the 1990s, he was a member of Frontline News Television, an agency specialising in war reportage. His area of research is conflict reporting. A fluent Russian speaker, he filed stories from all over the former Soviet Union, including Chechnya. Richard directed a documentary for Al Jazeera’s People and Power strand, about a FTSE-250 mining company behind a public health scandal in Kazakhstan. He has also reported and written for the journal *Ethical Space* on newsgathering in Syria and Iraq and wrote the essay ‘Reporter Power: News organisations, duty of care and the use of locally-hired news gatherers in Syria’.

**Lee Kenny**

Lee is an NCTJ-trained journalist who has worked on newspapers and magazines in the UK and overseas. He reported for *The Press* in New Zealand on international stories, including the Pitcairn Island sexual assault trials, which made global headlines in 2004. In Jinan, China, he worked as a magazine feature writer, reporting on the preparations for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Before joining the Centre, he was course leader for journalism degrees at the University of Wolverhampton. He has a Master’s in Contemporary Media and an MA in Film Studies. His research focuses on documentary film and he is researching a PhD on contemporary British documentary.

**David Acheson: Lecturer in Media Law**

A graduate in Law, David studied for an LLM in Media Law at the University of East Anglia, where he was included in the Dean’s List for Academic Performance. His PhD deals with the defamation of companies and considers the English law of defamation as it applies to corporate claimants. David joined the Centre in the summer of 2016 to advance the academic provision of law within the Centre. David teaches on both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. His article: ‘The Defamation Act 2013: What exactly is a “body that trades for profit?”’ appeared in the journal *Communications Law*.

**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, and a former KM Group reporter of the year. He joined the KM as editorial assistant in 1999 and his first reporting job was on the first UK paper founded in the new millennium, the *Swanley Messenger*. He was also senior press officer at Kent County Council. In 2015 Rob published an analysis of the first Bloggers’ Bench to be formally recognised by a UK local authority in the peer-reviewed journal *Ethical Space*, ‘Citizen Journalist or Citizen Agitator? Establishing Twitter in Medway’s Public Sphere’. His research interests include the relationship between citizen journalists and the regional press. A Kent alumnus, he graduated with a BA in English and Philosophy in 1999.
Kishan Koria is studying for a taught MA in Multimedia Journalism.

What attracted you to this course?
The fact that it is NCTJ accredited and has the rigour of an MA behind it. I also loved the fact we would be trained in different media platforms: print, television, radio and online. A lot of courses only focus on one.

Why did you choose to study at Kent?
I came in to have a chat and Tim [Luckhurst] and Gerardo [Cali] showed me around. They were very friendly and even let me read off the autocue. The staff all seemed quite hands-on and dedicated to spending time with their students.

What are you particularly enjoying?
I’m really enjoying the technical side, like how to set up a camera shot and shorthand’s fun! I also like news days… you listen to the news on the radio and by 5 o’clock you have produced either a radio or television programme or a newspaper based on that day’s news. You really feel you’ve achieved something. There will always be a place for quality journalism. We are bombarded with information from all sides. What a really good journalist can do, someone like Faisal Islam, [political editor Sky News] who gave this year’s Bob Friend Memorial lecture, is say: ‘This is what happened, this is what matters to you…’

How do you find the teaching?
There’s a good balance. Some people have local news experience, which is relevant to what we’re doing now. Some have worked nationally and internationally, which lots of us aspire to do. Some teaching is focused on our NCTJ exams. You are balancing academic work with practical journalism.

What about your fellow students?
We’re a diverse bunch, about 50% of us are international students. It gives you a different perspective on what you’re studying. Every day starts with conference, you start the day as if you are a journalist. It makes for some lively discussions.

How have you found the facilities?
They are very good. We have top of the range Macs and if I wanted to make a radio piece for a podcast I am working on, they will sort out the kit so you can go and do that outside of the University.

How will your studies affect your employment prospects?
Since coming here, I have been on work experience at the Kent Messenger newspaper, on BBC South East and BBC Radio Kent. I’ve secured a two-week internship with Sky News. That’s a direct consequence of being able to show that I’m not just dedicated to journalism but that I am technically competent and that I know the law, but also because editors and senior broadcast journalists from those institutions are coming here, meeting students, and you have a chance to connect with them.

What are you planning to do next?
I’m particularly interested in broadcast journalism. My background is in politics and economics so I would love to be working in political journalism.

What advice can you offer potential students of this course?
Be ready to work hard. If you want to be a journalist, this course is great. You will be very busy but know that you will have all the support to be ready to apply for jobs. If you work hard you will really enjoy it.

Since we spoke, Kishan has been appointed to the production team at ITN’s Peston on Sunday.
Chloe Perceval is studying for a taught MA in Multimedia Journalism.

**Why did you choose to study multimedia journalism at Kent?**
I did my undergraduate degree, Politics and International Relations, at Canterbury as part of my bi-diplôme. I decided to come here because I knew the University and I was happy with my experience as an undergraduate at Kent. Also, the Centre for Journalism has good results.

**How are you finding the course?**
It’s interesting and diverse. We have practical sessions on how to use the television and radio kit, how to write a news piece and going out to do our own reports, interview people and make contacts.

**What have you particularly enjoyed so far?**
I really enjoyed the teaching about radio journalism, using the radio kit was fun. We had sessions on how to write for different kinds of media. I enjoyed learning how to write for different markets: features, news stories and online. I enjoy news days the most. For example, you may have to make a radio programme. Everyone has something different to do: interviewing, editing, sound recording or reading the news. At 5pm, all the stories we have been working on are introduced by two presenters – the packages we’ve been recording, editing or a perhaps a live interview we’ve done in the studio. We do the same for print and produce a newspaper for that day with news, international stories and entertainment news. It’s exciting.

**How have you been supported in your studies?**
The teachers are really helpful. They are always open to us going to ask them for help or with work opportunities or internships. If you want to contact someone but don’t know how to approach a media organisation they will help. The lecturers have different backgrounds; some have worked in local news, others have specialised in international matters.

**What about your fellow students?**
We have a lot of international students. You learn a lot being with people who come from all over the world like Uganda, Germany or Switzerland. We don’t view the same things as being important, we don’t look at things the same way which is good when it comes to discussing news. Different points of view make it so interesting.

**How do you feel the degree will help your employment prospects?**
The degree prepares you for when you graduate; you know how to produce a television or radio package, how to write for print. You have contacts and know how to go and talk to people. You get so much out of the year, a lot of us had never done radio before, many of us had never written for the press, then you get to the end of term and know you can do all of these things. It’s not a lot of time to get so many skills and it gives you confidence.

**What’s next for you?**
I would like to be a foreign correspondent for a national newspaper. I am looking at working in Canada; I speak French and English and I think they are looking for people who can speak both languages.

**What advice can you offer potential students of this course?**
Go for it. Don’t be afraid, it’s an enjoyable experience. You meet a lot of people and do a lot of things. I didn’t realise I would get so much out of it. You learn how to use a camera properly, make a radio tape and now it all seems natural.
Kent has an excellent record for postgraduate employment: over 96% of our postgraduate students who graduated in 2015 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 prepares 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 award-winning 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
Ben Kennedy graduated from Kent in 2014 with a Master’s degree in Multimedia Journalism. He now works as a full-time video journalist at KMTV – an online video newsroom based at the University of Kent in partnership with the KM Media Group.

Can you describe your time at Kent?
In a word, intense. Not that this was a bad thing – it was exactly what I was looking for in a course. Over the year, I learnt the fundamental practical skills it takes to be a journalist, such as how to write news stories, media law, shorthand and so on, while given time to explore and discuss the broader issues surrounding the trade. I was lucky to be with a lovely group of people who came to study at Kent from across the world; we really clicked as a group and spent a lot of time together socially. Overall, it was a tough year but hugely enjoyable and, in my case, the key to getting my foot in the door in journalism.

What was good about it?
The fact you can study for an MA and an NCTJ Diploma at the same time. The MA was great for widening my knowledge about broader issues in the media: journalism law, ethics, and so on, but the NCTJ Diploma gave me the core skills necessary to report the news properly. Every morning we had a news conference led by one of our lecturers, where we discussed that morning’s stories, how they were covered in the press, and how we would cover them as journalists. It was great to have access to such state-of-the-art facilities, too, better than a lot of newsrooms I’ve been in.

Did the course live up to your expectations?
Yes. It was an intense year of complete immersion in the world of the journalist, which put me in a position to apply for jobs before I’d even graduated.

What are you doing now?
After a year’s work as a reporter for the Gravesend Messenger and the Dartford Messenger, I’m now a video journalist for KMTV – the online video department of the Kent Messenger in partnership with the University of Kent.

Can you describe a typical day?
There isn’t one! I’m usually chasing the biggest stories in Kent providing video to go with the online story on KentOnline. This could be anything from a major incident involving emergency services, to meeting the world’s smallest sheep (which lives in Dartford). Most days, I’m driving across the county to capture stories on film, presenting stories to camera as well as shooting them myself and editing them. Every evening we have a daily bulletin, for which I’m usually either the presenter or director. It’s great because I’m given the chance to do a lot of things you just couldn’t do at a bigger broadcaster without years of experience. It’s great fun.

How did Kent help you into a career?
First, by showing me the basics in how to write and find stories, and giving me the resources necessary to pass the NCTJ Diploma – a must for anyone wanting to get their first job in journalism. But also by providing work experience opportunities. Towards the end of my course the whole year was given a placement at the Kent Messenger, which was influential in me getting my first job at the newspaper’s Gravesend office. The lecturers were always available to offer advice about careers and work experience, which I found infinitely helpful.

How do you see your career progressing?
I’m hoping the experience I’m gaining at KMTV will eventually enable me to become an on-screen journalist for a major broadcaster.

IMPRESSIONS
The Centre for Journalism has a reputation for producing brilliant graduates. Our students are now working as journalists at Sky News, The Daily Mail, The Jeremy Vine Show on BBC Radio Two and The Sun tablet edition.
Multimedia Journalism

The Multimedia Journalism MA 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

International Multimedia Journalism MA

The International Multimedia Journalism MA, which is taught alongside the Multimedia Journalism MA, is a one-year programme designed for overseas graduates who do not wish to

practise journalism in the UK. Students on this course do not study for the National Council for the Training of Journalists’ Diploma and have to take the Dissertation as mandatory. Full details are available at www.kent.ac.uk/journalism

Please note, modules are not fixed as new modules are always in development. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/pg for the most up-to-date-information.

Course content

You take the following compulsory modules:
- British Public Affairs
- Journalism Law, Ethics and Regulation
- Practical Multimedia Journalism
- Reporting

You also take two modules chosen from the following:
- Advanced Multimedia Storytelling
- Communication and Humanitarianism
- History of Journalism 1500-2000
- Political Reporting
- Reporting Conflict
- Sports Journalism
- Propaganda – Media, Manipulation and Persuasion
- Dissertation.

LOOKING FOR FUNDING?

Kent has a scholarship fund of £11.4m to support its postgraduates. For the latest information, please visit www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate
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
All students have access to work placements in multimedia newsrooms where they 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 or other employers.

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. You 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.

“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 text books.”
Laura Garcia-Rodriguez Bla
MA Multimedia Journalism graduate
TAUGHT PROGRAMMES (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.

Propaganda – Media, Manipulation and Persuasion
This module examines the role of propaganda as a means of communication and persuasion. It assesses how the propagandists seek to convince their audience of the justice of a cause and how they seek to change behaviour by inciting hatred and violence or by encouraging passive acceptance of their policies. You study and critically assess the role of propaganda in the two World Wars, the Cold War, apartheid South Africa, Rwanda and contemporary conflicts and politics.

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
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 Society of College, National and University Libraries (SCONUL) scheme to visit and borrow from other UK libraries.

WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH

Kent is judged to have world-leading research in all subjects submitted in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014. Kent is ranked 17th* in the UK for research intensity and 97% of our research is of international quality.

*of 122 universities not including specialist institutions
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.

International 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 (this can be undertaken remotely). 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 overall, including 7.0 in reading, writing, listening and speaking, or an acceptable equivalent for the MA in Multimedia Journalism and a score of 7.0 overall including 7.0 in writing and 6.5 in reading, listening and speaking for the MA in International Multimedia Journalism.

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)
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

ONLINE RESOURCES

To watch masterclasses by leading editors and correspondents, and to view examples of our students’ work in audio, video and text, please visit www.centreforjournalism.com
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 148 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 Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, 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 challenging 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
This brochure was produced in June 2016. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/pg and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/opendays