

GCSE JOURNALISM IN THE MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

OVERVIEW

- This is a unitised course.
- There are three assessment units: two internally assessed and one externally assessed.
- The specification allows students to develop and apply knowledge, understanding and skills relating to:
 - news gathering, research and evaluation;
 - writing and editing for print, online and radio;
 - presenting and packaging using modern industry technologies;
 - review writing;
 - the role and purpose of journalism;
 - technology, conventions and modern journalism;
 - professional roles within journalism;
 - journalism law, regulation and ethics;
 - the skills of the editor and sub-editor;
 - public relations;
 - journalism analysis; and
 - working with sources.
- The specification offers opportunities to develop Cross-Curricular and Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities that aid progression to other courses of study or employment.
- A range of support material is available, including specimen assessment materials, exemplar planning frameworks and teacher and student guidance on controlled assessment.

SPECIFICATION SUMMARY

Unit 1: Cross-Platform Research Portfolio

Controlled assessment, two tasks (first assessment Summer 2019)

Unit 2: Radio and Review Portfolio

Controlled assessment, two tasks (first assessment Summer 2019)

Unit 3: Industry, Theory and Practice

External online examination, 2 hours plus screen break: 15 minutes (first assessment Summer 2019)

Students answer a combination of short, structured questions and questions requiring extended writing.

They also complete journalistic tasks in response to stimulus we provide.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

Students will:

- develop the knowledge, understanding and skills (including practical skills) required for working in cross-platform journalism;
- develop a critical and analytical approach to researching, writing, decision making and problem solving;
- apply their knowledge and understanding in a variety of work-related contexts, using a range of technologies and practices;
- have opportunities to build on the skills and capabilities developed at Key Stage 3; and
- have opportunities to engage actively and to develop as effective and independent students.



CROSS-CURRICULAR SKILLS, THINKING SKILLS AND PERSONAL CAPABILITIES THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED

Cross-Curricular Skills at Key Stage 4

Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT

Students will have opportunities to develop these skills in a variety of ways, for example:

- writing their film review or radio bulletin script;
- carrying out primary research for their local print story;
- calculating broadcast timings against word counts;
- carrying out statistical research;
- recording and editing audio and/or audiovisual interviews; and
- formatting news pages.

Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities at Key Stage 4

Self-Management, Working With Others and Problem Solving

Students should be able to:

- manage ongoing research using a detailed log book;
- write copy for an evolving news story under time-restricted examination conditions in response to phased release news materials;
- record audio or audiovisual interviews with primary sources and members of the public; and
- work in news teams with fellow students.

CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

CONTENT	CONTENT SUMMARY	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 1: Cross-Platform Research Portfolio	<p>This unit introduces students to the skills of print and online news journalism.</p> <p>Task 1: Students research, write and present an original print news story for a local newspaper of their choice.</p> <p>Task 2: Students research, write and present an online news story for a regional or national news website of their choice.</p>	<p>Controlled assessment</p> <p>Teachers mark the portfolio and we moderate the results.</p>	25%

SPECIFICATION SNAPSHOT

For first teaching from September 2017
For first assessment in Summer 2018
For first award in Summer 2019

CONTENT	CONTENT SUMMARY	ASSESSMENT	WEIGHTING
Unit 2: Radio and Review Portfolio	This unit introduces students to radio and review writing. Task 1: Students write a radio bulletin or package script (according to the stimulus that year). Task 2: Students write a review for a film they have chosen (according to a brief we provide).	Controlled assessment Teachers mark the portfolio and we moderate the results.	25%
Unit 3: Industry, Theory and Practice	Part 1 Section A: Law, Industry and Cross-Platform Conventions Section B: Sub-Editing, Editing and Public Relations Section C: Journalism Analysis Part 2 Section D: Newsroom Task	External online examination Part 1 (1 hour 30 mins) Section A Section B Section C Screen Break (15 mins) Part 2 (30 mins) Section D	50%

SUPPORTING YOU

In person

We are your local awarding organisation, so we can provide personalised support and visits to you and your centre upon request. Contact the Specification Support Officer if you would like to arrange for us to visit you, your department or your centre. If you have a query or require advice and guidance, please contact the Subject Officer.

At teacher-focused events

We provide a comprehensive programme of events to support the revised specification, which includes:

- free launch events to introduce you to the specification; and
- free support events on the teaching and assessment and to assist you with subject-specific issues.

We will send invitations to heads of department at least three weeks before each event. Alternatively, see our full list of support events online at www.ccea.org.uk

Online

Most of the support we provide will be available on your subject microsite. The site will include:

- the latest version of the specification;
- planning frameworks;

- Chief Examiner's reports with top tips for improving examination performance (available after the first examination series);
- specimen assessment materials; and
- exemplification of standards (available after the first examination series).

Visit your subject microsite by going to www.ccea.org.uk and selecting **Choose Subject Microsite**.

CONTACT US

If you have a query or require advice or guidance, please contact:

Subject Officer with overall responsibility for the specification

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GCSE Journalism in the Media and Communications Industry