

The School  
of Journalism

# BA (Hons) in Journalism & NCTJ Diploma in Journalism



**NEWS** ASSOCIATES



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## Welcome...

The best journalists are always ones who are prepared to hunt away from the pack, challenge the convention and see the extraordinary in the ordinary.

Based in our newsroom in the heart of Manchester, the School of Journalism is a unique collaboration between News Associates – the number one ranked NCTJ journalism school in the UK – and the University of St Mark & St John.

And we are looking for the journalists of the future who are willing to think differently. We want students who will treat the start of this course as the first day of their careers and then follow in the footsteps of our award-winning alumni, who work around the world in every aspect of the media from national to local newspapers, broadcasters, press and PR agencies.

This is not your normal journalism degree programme, it will be a highly-practical three year course delivered by journalists and editors, not lecturers and professors.

You'll be putting theory into practice from day one, our classroom will be your newsroom.

We'll treat you as a journalist from the moment you arrive and – with our long-standing reputation as the UK's leading provider of journalism training accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists – make you employable on the day you leave.

Although technology has changed the ways in which we share and consume the news, the principles and values that govern journalism remain the same and our job is to prepare you not only for the field as it is today, but as it will be tomorrow.

At the School of Journalism we combine that tradition with innovation and we are looking for journalists who can produce compelling and original content, telling stories across a range of platforms.

We don't believe journalism can be taught from a textbook, which is why from the very beginning of your studies, you will hit the streets and report, producing stories in text, audio and video.

There's never been a more challenging and exciting time in journalism, so if you've got the passion, determination and attitude, get in touch to tell us who you are, what you've done and why we'd be mad not to work with you.

**James Toney,**  
managing editor

*James Toney is the managing editor at News Associates. Regularly shortlisted for his reporting in industry awards, he is responsible for the agency's extensive print, online and video coverage and award-winning journalism training in London and Manchester. He started his career in national newspapers and is a regular commentator on sports and news issues on television and radio. His first book was published by Bloomsbury in 2013.*



## What is the NCTJ Diploma in Journalism? And why does it matter?

*“News Associates is officially the UK’s number one provider of NCTJ accredited journalism courses. Our School of Journalism undergraduate BA (Hons) programme will draw on this unrivalled success to give those who graduate the skills they really need in a competitive marketplace.”*

James Toney, managing editor

In addition to your BA (Hons) in Journalism, all students at the School of Journalism will sit examinations and complete coursework to gain their Diploma in Journalism from the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ).

News Associates is the top-ranked NCTJ accredited school in the UK, running long-established postgraduate courses in London and Manchester. But at the School of Journalism there will be no requirement for an expensive postgraduate course after you conclude your studies – providing you achieve your gold standard NCTJ Diploma, you’ll be job ready.

The NCTJ was founded in 1951 and is a long-established and respected benchmark of excellence for journalists – graduates of NCTJ training dominate all sections of the media and, according to recent research, 73% of qualified journalists are NCTJ trained.

The organisation has a professional awarding body recognised by Ofqual, an accreditation board, Student Council, focus groups and forums, and the annual Journalism Skills Conference.

The industry standard for accredited journalism courses sets a benchmark based on exam results and also stresses the need for courses to focus on skills convergence and multimedia journalism.

### WE’RE COMMITTED TO GOLD STANDARD TRAINING

Our undergraduate programme at the School of Journalism will aim to draw on the same success as our postgraduate courses in London and Manchester.

We focus all our students on achieving a gold standard diploma (which requires A-C grades in all modules plus 100 words per minute shorthand).

In the academic year 2014-2015, 461 students graduated nationally throughout NCTJ accredited undergraduate programmes, of these only 78 (17%) achieved a gold standard qualification.

At News Associates, in the academic year 2014-2015, 140 graduated through our full-time postgraduate training programmes in London and Manchester – of these 131 (94%) achieved the highly-prized gold standard diploma within an academic year.

And in such a competitive marketplace that can make a major difference, as securing the best available qualification hugely boosts employability statistics.

According to the NCTJ, 96% of those who attained the gold standard qualification were in paid media roles within six to ten months of finishing their NCTJ-accredited courses.

## The University of St Mark & St John



To ensure academic rigor we’ve partnered with the University of St Mark & St John and together we’ll ensure you have all the transferable skills you need.

### HISTORY

With over 170 years of heritage, tradition and experience, both founding principals of St John’s (1840) and St Mark’s (1841) colleges were eminent Victorians who developed the first national school system.

In 1926 the two colleges merged, and in 1973 the College of St Mark and St John moved to Plymouth and became referred to as Marjon by students. In 1991 they became affiliated to the University of Exeter, which accredited it to run undergraduate and postgraduate programmes leading to degree awards of the University.

In 2007 Marjon received Taught Degree Awarding Powers which provided it with University College status, and now officially operate as the University of St Mark & St John. The first Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive of the University, Professor Cara Aitchison, was appointed in 2013.

Rated the best University in the UK for social mobility (Graduate Social Mobility Index), St Mark & St John is also rated among the UK top 10 universities for overall student satisfaction, according to the Times University Guide 2014.

### MAXIMISE YOUR EMPLOYABILITY

The University has created a number of industry links and partnerships to assist your employability – with over 94% of students in employment or further study within six months of graduating, (HESA, 2014). This ranks Marjon as the 12th best university in England for employability.

To help you make the right choices throughout your degree, you will have access to plenty of online support material available via your online Learning Space.



## Our editorial board

The editorial board at News Associates is a panel of experienced industry names, whose job is to ensure the delivery of our journalism programmes meets the highest possible standards and is reflective of the ever-changing demands of the job.

With over 160 years' experience across a range of media – from newspaper to broadcasting to crisis communications – the board's remit is to provide counsel, insight and advice to our heads of journalism and training staff in London and Manchester.

### SIMON COLE



Simon trained as a newspaper journalist and went through local radio into television news where he worked for BBC and ITN as a correspondent and news editor before joining Sky News as Head of Home News.

Simon went on to become Sky News Managing Editor, Head of Newsgathering and Deputy Head of News before retiring in 2012.

With colleagues he won many news awards including RTS, BAFTA and Emmy.

He is now a news consultant in the UK and USA.

### GRAHAM DUDMAN



Graham is an editorial consultant to News Associates and chairs the editorial board.

He started his career in local newspapers at the Stockport Express before joining the Middlesbrough Evening Gazette.

After spells at the Daily Mail and Daily Express, he joined The Sun where he held a number of roles including Moscow correspondent, news editor, head of news, assistant editor (features) and managing editor.

He was responsible for the team that brought Ronnie Biggs back to the UK from Brazil, recognised by Press Gazette as one of the best 50 British newspaper stories of the 20th century.

He sits on the board of the Society of Editors, advises the Journalism Diversity Fund and is a member of the accreditation board of the National Council for the Training of Journalists.

### CLAIRE GILLINGWATER



Claire is an experienced media trainer and recognised expert in crisis communications, who counts FTSE 100 chief executives,

international businesspeople and emerging corporate talent among her clients.

An experienced journalist, she began her career on the Sheffield Star and Leicester Mercury, before moving into broadcast journalism working as a presenter/reporter at Yorkshire TV, a bulletin editor at TV-am, a producer at Sky News and a news editor at Reuters TV.

Claire then moved back into newspapers, returning to work as deputy editor of the Leicester Mercury, editor of the Evening News in Norwich and assistant news editor on the Daily Express.

### PAUL HORROCKS



Paul spent over 34 years at the Manchester Evening News, including 12 as editor-in-chief, and was previously a journalist at the Daily

Mail.

He is a former president of the Society of Editors, a member of the Press Complaints Commission and a member of the DA Notice Committee at the Ministry of Defence. He has specialist knowledge of multi-media journalism convergence and has been a trainer for overseas media houses on investigative reporting through the Thomson Foundation, in Nepal and India.

He is chairman of NHS Bury, an independent governor of the University of Bolton and a trustee for the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

### DAVID PARSONS



David is the executive editor at Sportsbeat, the UK's largest sports content agency, which provides text and broadcast content to over 500 outlets every year, reaching a combination audience in excess of 750 million.

Sportsbeat counts the Football Association, British Olympic Association, British and Irish Lions, Aviva Premiership, Guinness PRO12 and Six Nations amongst its sports event clients. David runs a team of award-winning reporters, who have variously been recognised for their journalism in the Press Gazette Awards, Sports Journalism Awards and Sports Industry Awards. He was invited to sit on the British Olympic Association's accreditation panel to represent the interests of the UK media.

### SIMON PEARSON



Simon Pearson is the obituaries editor of The Times, where he has worked for most of the past 30 years. In that time, he has been chief sub-editor on both the home and foreign desks, night editor and executive editor. He led the team that turned the paper from a broadsheet into a compact in a week. He was associate night editor of The Daily Telegraph for a year in 1998-99.

Simon started his career as a reporter on the Mansfield Chronicle Advertiser in 1977, then joined the sports desk of the Sheffield Morning Telegraph, covering football, rugby and golf, before joining the South China Morning Post as a sub-editor. He also worked as a freelance in Australia and New Zealand.

Away from journalism, his main interest is military history. He wrote a best-selling biography of Roger Bushell, the RAF officer who led the "Great Escape" from Stalag Luft III in 1944. The book, The Great Escaper, is scheduled to be turned into a film.



After being named the UK's top journalism course. Left to right - Andrew Greaves, head of journalism and public affairs; Holly Manj, training manager; James Toney, managing editor; Rachel Bull, head of journalism training and Graham Dudman, chair of News Associates' editorial advisory board.

## Senior journalism training staff

News Associates has a team of experienced journalists to guide you through your degree and NCTJ Diploma programmes. We invest heavily in professional development to ensure their skills remain up to date with the ever-changing shifts of the industry.

### JAMES TONEY

James is the managing editor and a board director at News Associates. He has responsibility for their award-winning journalism training schemes in London and Manchester and the School of Journalism BA (Hons) in Journalism programme in Manchester.

James started his career on national newspapers, securing his first front page aged 19. He is a regular commentator on Sky News and BBC Radio.

His area of specialist interests include journalism ethics, social media and sports journalism.

His first book was published by Bloomsbury in January 2013.

### RACHEL BULL

Rachel is the head of journalism training at News Associates and the course leader for the BA (Hons) in Journalism at the School of Journalism.

She is responsible for the smooth delivery of all News Associates training, admissions, course marketing and publicity. She is an award-winning journalist with experience in local and national newspapers. She is a former NCTJ journalist of the year, with a MA in

journalism from St Mary's University College. Her areas of specialist interest include communications and data journalism.

### ANDREW GREAVES

Andrew is the head of journalism and public affairs at News Associates. Before joining the team, Andrew spent more than a decade on regional newspapers both in the UK and Spain and has contributed to a range of titles from The Guardian to The Economist. He is a regular guest presenter on That's Manchester. He is a member of the NCTJ's public affairs examination board and his areas of specialist interest include political and multimedia journalism.

### MIKE BAKER

Mike is the programme leader for journalism at the University of St Mark and St John in Plymouth.

An experienced journalist, he started his career at the Evening Herald before moving on to work at The Guardian for seven years. He was formerly the sports editor of the Western Morning News, a regional daily serving Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

He joined the staff at the University of St Mark and St John in 2012.

## Award-winning training, award-winning journalists

News Associates is recognised as an industry leader in journalism training.

We were named the UK's top fast track and top overall journalism course by the National Council for the Training of Journalists in 2012, 2013 and 2014 and 2015.

But we are about more than our impressive results. It's not just about being good in the classroom but being great in the newsroom – and our list of recent graduate awards underlines this approach, which is at the heart of our training.

It's also why our trainees go on to such great jobs.

Our graduates regularly dominate the NCTJ Excellence in Journalism Awards, which recognise and reward the best journalism students completing NCTJ-accredited courses and journalists/photographers with less than two years' experience on the job.

George Gigney was recognised as student journalist of the year – his stunning exam results beating over 1,500 others from accredited courses across the UK.



George  
Gigney



Leonie  
Chao Fong



Naomi  
Firsht

“The staff at News Associates are all brilliant – they pushed us hard and were great teachers, but we also got on with them really well,” said George. “If I had done my journalism studies somewhere else, I really don't think I would have won this award.”

Léonie Chao-Fong's agenda setting investigation into the seedy underworld of Hong Kong bankers – published in Vice – was awarded student scoop of the year. She now works at Metro.

Naomi Firsht, now a reporter with the Jewish Chronicle, was praised for a hard-hitting and diverse portfolio that earned her feature writer of the year while Jordan Bluer, now a reporter with the Dover Express, was recognised with the trainee scoop of the year award.

And finally Nemesha Balasundaram, of the Irish Post, was named sports journalist of the year.

In addition the following News Associates graduates were highly commended: Rosie Hopegood (Sunday Mirror), Conor Gaffey (Newsweek), Michael Hincks (BT Sport) and Andy Donley (Daily Mirror).

## Academic and Pastoral support

Throughout your three years with us, each student will be supported by both an academic and pastoral mentor to encourage your development.

We don't want you to get lost in a sea of people. We have a select, small intake to ensure that unlike other institutions, we'll know your personal and professional needs by the end of the first week.

The academic mentor will oversee your academic performance to ensure you are exceeding your potential, providing essential support to achieve the best possible degree. One-to-one tutorial time will be set aside and students can email tutors around the clock for subject specific advice.

The academic mentor will work closely with students to ensure they leave the course with a bursting portfolio to take to employers – your currency when applying to jobs.

The pastoral mentor will be responsible for your emotional and personal development across your three years. We want you to feel you are always supported, with regular meetings with your mentor.

Someone from the pastoral team will be available 24/7 should you need their support and we can help organise external support if required.

We'll provide unrivalled support when applying for jobs and after graduation our door is never closed – we'll send you job alerts after your studies have concluded.





## Course overview

Journalism is changing. And graduates of the School of Journalism will be taught to stay ahead of the constantly shifting trends.

In addition to the research and analysis elements of your BA (Hons) in Journalism, you will study the core subjects of the NCTJ curriculum: journalism ethics, news reporting, shorthand, media law, public affairs, production journalism, sports journalism and video journalism for online.

### YEAR ONE

You'll develop your writing skills across multiple platforms as you learn to write news, reviews and features. We'll examine the British media as you develop essential research and analytical skills.

We'll explore working not just in words but pictures, as we cover basic video equipment and editing software, and you'll sit two of your vital NCTJ examinations in media law and public affairs.

#### Research Module One

Throughout your first year modules we will concentrate on developing not only your writing skills, but those all-important research and critical analysis skills. You will examine how the modern media in Britain works and learn to analyse how and why messages are constructed and conveyed.

#### Essential Media Law

A thorough understanding of media law is vital to pursue stories and this module covers the important NCTJ syllabus. Topics include areas such as contempt, defamation, privacy, disclosure of sources, copyright and more.

#### Journalism: Reporting

This module will prepare you for the newsroom, not the

classroom, as we cover gathering and writing news, developing sources, feature writing and equip you to deal with the most demanding of deadlines. You'll learn key theoretical techniques for writing news, and be challenged to break them as you explore longer-length features.

#### Live News Production

This will give you the opportunity to learn essential production skills – specifically selecting and writing news for a range of different audiences. We will introduce software and the basic elements of editing, such as picture selection and headline writing.

#### Journalism Production

Journalists today must be comfortable not just working in words but in pictures. We will cover basic video equipment, editing software and focus on filming techniques such as sound and lighting. Your first year skills and experiences will culminate in producing a three-minute news video, as you tackle post-production skills.

#### Public Affairs

Whether you're a news hound or your interest lies more in fashion or sport, knowing how politics impacts on us all is vital. You'll complete this module with an understanding of how government operates at a local, national and international level, as well as covering how elections work, the NHS and the European Union. This module will incorporate the vital NCTJ examination.

### YEAR TWO

In your second year we'll prepare you further for important NCTJ exams – including studying shorthand to 100 words per minute.

You'll create immersive multimedia feature packages, using everything from hi-spec broadcast equipment to software available for your mobile phone. We'll also work on design skills as you create engaging page layouts.



We'll work on essential employability skills, covering mock interview practice with someone from the industry, helping identify where to find jobs and creating a CV that stands out from the crowd.

### Research Module Two

An exciting planned guest lecture series will accompany this module, as you develop key research and study skills. We'll step up your journalistic knowledge and look closely at the British media landscape as we analyse media ownership and how it shapes the news agenda.

### Shorthand

Taking notes accurately is a vital skill in the newsroom and is an essential element of the NCTJ qualification. Dictaphones are banned in court and the increase in online publications means the speed of copy is even more important. You'll learn Teeline, which is the most accessible and popular form practised by journalists. We know that when it comes to applying for jobs, editors are looking for 100 words per minute shorthand on your CV.

### Journalism: Further Reporting

In this module we'll focus on writing longer articles, as well as keeping up the news writing practice and developing



important interviewing techniques. We'll start to weave in opportunities to develop your practical portfolio, such as focusing on elements such as court reporting and how you can appeal reporting restrictions.

### Work-based learning

To become a successful journalist, you need a strong portfolio, as well as developing relationships with industry contacts. As part of this module, we'll help you organise a placement in the media where you can put theory into practice. You'll also have the opportunity to practise your interview skills with someone from the industry, create a stand out CV and identify potential employers and job sites.

### Live News Production Module Two

This module will expand on the skills learnt in year one, and will focus on essential page design skills using industry software. We'll also look at the specific needs of online editing, such as search engine optimisation, key words and tagging.

### Journalism: Visual

Here you will outline your own news story, pitch the idea and then refine it, before shooting your own video article



for your portfolio. We'll also look at writing scripts for broadcast journalism as you spend time in front of the camera. More advanced technical and software skills will be developed in preparation for your third year video project.

### YEAR THREE

Your final year will prepare you for the best graduate jobs. You'll produce a newspaper from start to finish – we'll challenge you to come up with the ideas, source all the copy, produce the images and design the pages.

You'll take part in live broadcast exercises, as well as studying vital media marketing and data journalism tools, and you'll write a dissertation.

### Honours Project

The final year will begin with an exciting major journalism project, which can be theoretical in the form of a dissertation or incorporate more creative skills.

### Journalism: TV

Practical skills are the focus here as we prepare you for entering the job market. As well as looking at photography, we'll explore mobile journalism – challenging you to



produce video clips, audio scripts and interviews as you develop your broadcast journalism skills.

### Live News Production Module Three

This is the final showcase for your production skills. In groups, you'll produce a newspaper or magazine from start to finish. You'll gain vital news conference experience as you pitch your self-sourced stories to an editor, before drawing on your writing, design and practical journalism skills to produce an industry-standard publication for your portfolio.

### Data Journalism

In this module you'll look at the sources of data journalism and how we convert these to stories, such as freedom of information requests. You'll explore the different tools you can use and expand on your production skills to visualise the data using infographics.

### Media Marketing

Understanding the impact of and utilising social networking as a marketing tool is vital for promoting your profile as a journalist. We'll look at ways to engage readers with your articles, as well as how to produce shareable work across a number of platforms.



## Practical Journalism

*“Journalism is printing what someone else does not want printed. Everything else is public relations.”*

George Orwell

You can't learn journalism from a textbook. We firmly believe you learn how to be a good journalist by actually being a journalist, and you will have lots of practical opportunities to work on real journalism.

From thought-provoking features, to live broadcast programmes to your own self-sourced newspaper – producing a portfolio of work you are proud to show a potential future employer is a key part of your studies.

Work experience and industry placements are a vital part of the course and all students will contribute extensively to [www.mancunianmatters.co.uk](http://www.mancunianmatters.co.uk) – Manchester's leading online news service, run by News Associates.

The website is now an established major news provider in the region, well-respected by MPs, councillors and press officers – not to mention other editors who regularly spot

their future reporters there.

This unique opportunity means that during the course you can be on the ground covering breaking news, interviewing politicians, writing gig and restaurant reviews and getting stories published that many trainees can only dream of.

Previous trainees have provided round the clock coverage of Manchester's council elections, with reporters in the press boxes at the counts. They were also first to break the news of disturbances in Manchester that signalled the start of the riots – beating the Manchester Evening News and the BBC to the story and first photos.

And they have even been asked to give their opinion on Newsnight.

Students will be encouraged to constantly have a story on the go as a portfolio with plenty of cuttings and variety not only boosts your grades but will impress an editor no end. It's a chance to prove you have many strings to your bow, so you won't just be expected to tell a story in words but with picture and video – today's newsrooms require multimedia journalists.

## Guest speaker series

School of Journalism students will have access to News Associates' long established and successful speakers programme.

We regularly invite industry professionals in to talk or deliver practical sessions and invite back recent graduates to speak about their first career steps.

Recent speakers have included: Meirion Jones, the BBC journalist who broke the Jimmy Savile scandal, Ian Woods, the senior Sky News correspondent, Alex Thomas, senior correspondent at CNN, Joanna Geary and Alex Trickett from Twitter, Helen Pidd from The Guardian, Chris Jones and David McDaid, broadcast journalists with BBC Five Live, Kevin Gopal, editor of the Big Issue North, Henning Gloystein and Mark Trevelyn from Reuters, Simon Carroll, senior editorial executive and leader writer with The Sun and representatives from the Independent Press Standards Organisation, National Union of Journalists and Society of Editors.

In addition we've staged a series of journalism masterclasses with experts from the BBC, covering everything from story sourcing to producing content using only your mobile phone and invited in speakers from a range of charities to discuss how reporters should be sensitive in their coverage of disability and mental health issues.



## Our job ... is helping you get a job

*"If you're gonna get a job that's a little bit of a caper, that isn't really a job, that under ideal circumstances you get to at least leave the building and leave your desktop, go out, find people more interesting than you, learn about something, come back and tell other people about it — that should be hard to get into. That should be hard to do. No wonder everybody's lined up, trying to get into it. It beats working."*

David Carr, New York Times

What good is a course, with its associated big investment in time and money, without the best possible job prospects when it concludes?

News Associates boasts a wide network of award-winning alumni who are working on a range of media. You'll find them breaking stories on Sky News, on the front pages of our national and regional press, creating sharable and viral content on websites like BuzzFeed, Vice and the Huffington Post, covering New York fashion week, interviewing showbiz stars at the Oscars, in the press box at Premier League grounds and sports events around the world and so much more.

Our highly practical approach to your studies – and our unrivalled success in the all-important NCTJ examinations – means our graduates are recognised by employers as a cut above the rest.

News Associates isn't just an award-winning journalism school, we are one of the UK's most trusted suppliers of text and broadcast content with the work of our full-time editors and journalists reaching an audience of 750 million every year.

This gives us an inside track on job opportunities, while many employers come direct to us when sourcing appointments.

From day one of your School of Journalism studies we'll be aiming to improve your employability – firstly by assisting you build a wide-ranging portfolio covering a broad scope of subjects on every relevant platform, from newspapers to podcasting.

The truth is a degree and your NCTJ Diploma in Journalism will not be enough to land you a job – you'll need experience and an impressive portfolio, both of which are key parts of your study programme from your first day.

There will be plenty of time set aside for third years to improve employability skills, with cv clinics and mock interviews, followed by 360 feedback from staff and peers. It won't be easy, it will need a lot of hard work – and our expectations of you are high.

There's no point sugar coating that you are looking to break into a competitive industry but then again no job worth having is easy to get, so your attitude and commitment will need to be first class.

The key fact in your employability will be achieving your gold standard NCTJ Diploma alongside your BA (Hons) in Journalism – something News Associates are recognised as the number one in the country at achieving.

Nationally less than 30% of students achieve this standard, at News Associates our numbers are different – our most recent full-time intakes in Manchester and London concluded with pass rates of 79%, 82%, 92% and 100% – which again ranked us the number one NCTJ accredited journalism school in the country.

Achieving a gold standard diploma hugely boosts employability statistics.

At News Associates – according to most recent figures – 95% of our graduates achieve full-time journalism work within six months of graduating.



Tom MacLeod graduated from News Associates in July 2013, with a gold-standard NCTJ Diploma in Multimedia Journalism. One year later Tom was a regular presenter on Sky News. During his time with us he worked on placement at BBC London and TalkSport



Nadia Mendoza graduated from News Associates – where she passed shorthand after just ten weeks – and joined The Sun. She has since moved to Los Angeles to work for the Daily Mail



After graduating from News Associates, Funmi Olutoye earned a place on the prestigious ITV News training scheme

## The student experience

*“Manchester is a growing cosmopolitan city. It has national news every day, world class sport on offer and a music heritage up there with the best cities in the world.”*

**Matt Davis, Manchester Evening News**

*“News Associates is the college all other journalism schools should aspire to. The tutors’ doors were always open and they are dedicated to making you as close to the finished article as possible.”*

**Sarah Gordon, Daily Mail**

This is not your normal journalism course. We want to treat you as a journalist from day one and there will be a heavy focus on practical opportunities.

According to industry title *Press Gazette*, the UK’s top journalism courses are taught by the private sector, rather than traditional universities. Indeed News Associates occupy the top four slots on results tables most recently issued by the National Council for the Training of Journalists.

We think this is because of our unique newsroom, rather than classroom, focussed approach.

There is only so much journalism you can learn from a textbook, only so many skills you can pick up from a powerpoint.

Getting out and chasing down the story is the very best way to learn.

Our courses have a strong focus on employability skills, which is why 90% of News Associates graduates find paid journalism employment within three months of concluding their studies.

And a big reason for that is the portfolio of work they produce – from newspaper cuttings to television showreels and podcasting projects.

We are looking for students who will embrace these opportunities and want to stay working in our newsroom, producing stories and content long after their lessons have concluded.

We’re looking for passion, application and enthusiasm.



## Living in Manchester



Living and studying in one of the UK’s media heartlands can only be a good thing. And Ernest Rutherford figured out how to split the atom here in 1917, so you’re in good intellectual company to make your mark.

Manchester’s eclectic nightlife offers something for everyone, but student life is about so much more:

### THE MUSIC SCENE

From a city which brought us Oasis, The Stone Roses and The Smiths, Manchester regularly welcomes global superstars and up-and-coming artists.

### THE SPORT

The Commonwealth Games left the city with first-rate facilities, such as the Manchester Velodrome, the Aquatics Centre, as well as the Regional Athletics Area. Oh, and there’s the small matter of whether you’re a City or United fan...

### THE NIGHTLIFE

From the Printworks party palace to the bohemia of the Northern Quarter, Manchester’s nightlife offers something for everyone. Catch some of the biggest names in dance music, or spend some time sipping cocktails and spotting celebrities.

### CULTURE

Expand your mind at Manchester’s many galleries, theatres and museums. From the Lowry, to the Royal Exchange and the Imperial War Museum to name a few – the city offers something for everyone.

### SHOPPING

Regarded by many as the shopping capital of the north west, whether you want to rummage through boutiques or buy University essentials in the Arndale Centre. The Trafford Centre nearby also hosts special student events for extra discounts.

### ACCOMMODATION

We have good relationships with a number of different accommodation halls, such as Student Castle, which offers modern and safe student living.

Our offices are based right in the heart of the city, so you won’t have to travel out of town to get to and from a campus.

We’re also right next to Oxford Road station and are a short walk from Piccadilly Rail Station and Deansgate Tram Station – perfect for commuting into the city.

## Our entry criteria

We're looking for applicants who want to think differently about journalism. Who want to throw themselves into practical training, and leave not only with a degree, but their essential NCTJ exams as well.

We will have a select, small intake so we can get to know your personal needs and develop your portfolio on an individual basis.

You should have a genuine passion and interest in the media, which you can hopefully support through some work experience.

Your personal statement is crucial – it's your chance to make your application stand out from the crowd and bring alive your passion for journalism.

You will also need:

- A minimum of three A levels at BBC, excluding General Studies
- A BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma, equivalent to Distinction Merit Merit
- Candidates should have a strong GCSE background and all students must have a minimum of GCSE English Language at Grade C or an equivalent qualification.

Please contact us to discuss the equivalent qualifications we accept.

## The Application Process

### OPEN DAYS

Based in our newsroom in central Manchester, we run a series of one-day masterclasses for those interested in our degree programme.

The workshops are taught by our award-winning team of trainers and editors, providing a glimpse into the industry and our practical journalism training.

This hands-on experience will cover an introduction to the changing landscape of digital journalism. You'll cover breaking news and how to tell a story visually, as well as try your hands at a range of skills required in print and broadcast journalism.

Places are limited, and can be booked online via our website or email us at [training@newsassociates.co.uk](mailto:training@newsassociates.co.uk)

### HOW TO APPLY:

To apply for this course you will need to apply through UCAS using the below codes:

**Course code: P500**  
**Institution code: P63**  
**Campus: Manchester (M)**

A step by step guide about how to apply can be found here: [www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/apply-and-track/filling-your-application](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/apply-and-track/filling-your-application)

If successful, you will then be asked to attend an interview with the course leader, where we can discuss the degree and your career prospects in more detail.

### CONTACT US

Please call us on **0870 445 01557** for help and guidance on your application, or email us at [training@newsassociates.co.uk](mailto:training@newsassociates.co.uk)

## A guide to student finance

All eligible full-time undergraduates can apply for a loan to cover their tuition fees. The loan will be paid directly to the University and your household income has no impact on the amount available.

### LOAN REPAYMENTS

You will start to repay your loan once you are earning £21,000 or more per year and you have been graduated for one year.

You will then pay 9% monthly of any income over £21,000.

For example, if you earned £27,000 per year you would have to repay the loan on £6000, so your monthly loan repayment would be £45 a month.

If your income dropped below £21,000 then your repayments would stop.

Student finance doesn't impact on any mortgage applications.

### MAINTENANCE GRANTS

Full-time students may also be entitled to a maintenance grant towards living costs while studying.

Students from families with incomes over £42,620 will be entitled to a partial grant.

For further information and information on our current fees, please call the student and admissions office on **0870 445 0155**.





## **The School of Journalism**

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