

# Journalism BA (Hons)\*

**UCAS Code: J100 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2026/2027**

Placement year opportunities available | Study Abroad opportunities



## Course Overview

The BA Journalism degree offers a comprehensive blend of theoretical knowledge and practical training, addressing the dynamic balance between journalism's responsibility to serve the public interest and the commercial pressures faced by modern news organisations. Students gain essential journalism and editing skills to succeed in a rapidly changing media industry.

The programme emphasises journalistic ethics and critical thinking, encouraging students to explore journalism's role in exposing power structures, tackling social inequality, and analysing internal commercial and ideological influences within the news industry.

Key strengths of the course include specialized training for future editors and producers, with a strong emphasis on digital journalism, supported by cutting-edge digital media facilities.

## Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

*\*Subject to validation*

## Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2026/2027 are £9,790 for full-time undergraduate courses.

On top of your tuition fees, you also need around £250 to purchase key textbooks throughout your Degree.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university. Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: [www.hope.ac.uk/halls](http://www.hope.ac.uk/halls)



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# Journalism Curriculum

## Year One

### SEMESTER 1

#### Theory Module 1 (Introduction to Journalism and Society)

Topics: Journalism Theories and Society; Journalism and (Digital) Culture; British and International Journalism History.

#### Practice Module 1 (Introduction to Reporting)

Topics: Introduction to News Writing, Reporting, and Interviewing; News Reporting and Analysis/Opinion.

### SEMESTER 2

#### Theory Module 2 (Journalism, the State and Ethics)

Topics: Journalism and the State; Media Regulation; Media Law, and Ethics; Journalistic Professional Codes and Guidelines.

#### Practice Module 2 (In-Depth Journalistic Writing and Publication Design)

Topics: Advanced News Feature Writing; Publication Design.

(Placement Year - optional).

### SEMESTER 2

#### Theory Module 2 (Journalism Structures and Power)

Topics: Journalism and News Industry Structures; Political Economy of Journalism; Journalism and Churnalism (Public Relations and Information Subsidies); Fake News and Media Freedom.

#### Practice Module 2 (Introduction to Digital Reporting)

Topics: Social Media Journalism; Editing, Sub-Editing and Fact-Checking.

## Year Two

### SEMESTER 1

#### Theory Module 1 (International Journalism and Technology)

Topics: International Journalism and News Cultures; News Agencies and International Communication; Journalism, Science and Technology.

#### Practice Module 1 (Audio and Digital Journalism Production)

Topics: Audio Journalism (Radio and Podcasting); Digital Journalism and Editorial Strategies.

## Year Three

### SEMESTER 1

#### Theory Module 1 (Journalism and Societal Crises)

Topics: Journalism and Societal Crises (Conflict, Environment, Populism); Journalism and Religion; Journalism and Economic Crises; Peace/Conflict Journalism; Journalism and Crime.

#### Practice Module 1 (Video Journalism and Visualisation)

Topics: Video/multimedia Journalism; Visualisation and Data Journalism.

### SEMESTER 2

#### Theory Module 2 (Political Journalism and Popular Culture)

Topics: Political Communication and Journalism; Journalism and Popular Culture; Journalism and Celebrity.

#### Practice Module 2 (Editorship and Journalism Production Specialism)

Topics: Editorial strategies and management; In-depth multimedia journalistic production on an editorial specialism of the student's choice (e.g., sports, photo, fashion, politics, the environment).

## COURSE STRUCTURE

Balanced Curriculum: 50% Theory | 50% Practice

Weekly Teaching Hours:

- Theory: 1-hour lecture and 2-hour seminar
- Practice: 2-hour workshop and 1-hour tutorial

This equal split ensures students gain both a strong academic foundation and hands-on experience in every aspect of the course.

## ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Assessment methods combine both theoretical and practical components to reflect the diverse demands of the journalism profession. These include theory exams, essays, reflective writing, and portfolios featuring original editorial and interview content, as well as digital and social media reporting projects. Students will also complete audio-visual news portfolios and conduct case study analyses of editorial and news organisations, presented both individually and in groups.

Practice modules include timed assessments for specific editorial tasks such as editing, sub-editing, and content/page design.

The course incorporates authentic assessments and problem-based learning, encouraging students to engage with real-world reporting challenges, and explore the ethical, legal, social, cultural, and political dimensions of journalism.

In the final year, students undertake a 30-credit Dissertation module, split into a 5,000-word Theory project (15 credits) and a 5,000-word equivalent Practice project in long-form journalism (15 credits). This practical component may take the form of an extended written article or an audio/visual podcast or documentary.



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