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## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

### Module Title

Digital Journalism In Practice

|           |            |             |         |
|-----------|------------|-------------|---------|
| Reference | BSM131     | Version     | 4       |
| Created   | April 2017 | SCQF Level  | SCQF 11 |
| Approved  | June 2018  | SCQF Points | 15      |
| Amended   | June 2017  | ECTS Points | 7.5     |

### Aims of Module

To enable the student to develop a critical and practical understanding of the ways in which journalism is adapting to the digital environment and a broad skills base in multimedia storytelling and content creation. This module combines location-based newsgathering with theoretical reflection and the teaching of practical skills in online and digital journalism.

### Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Acquire and develop advanced journalistic skills in newsgathering for the digital environment.
- 2 Demonstrate an ability to apply a range of key skills in the production and publication of digital journalism.
- 3 Critically evaluate their practical work in the context of current issues and debates around the impact of digital technology on journalists and their audiences.
- 4 Demonstrate understanding of the importance of market targeting of digital publishing.

### Indicative Module Content

Newsgathering from specific parts of Aberdeen and the surrounding area and/or for a defined niche audience at local or national level; delivering journalistic content in a range of multimedia forms for online and digital platforms; reflecting critically on digital journalism practice and the challenges facing the industry; applying an understanding of the issues and debates surrounding the digitisation of journalism to day-to-day practice.

### Module Delivery

This module includes lectures, seminars and practical workshops/laboratory sessions. There is a strong emphasis on newsgathering with dedicated 'news-day sessions' incorporated into teaching later in the semester. Students will also be introduced to key digital skills, including Wordpress website design, blogging and video for online, and given additional training in interview techniques and the basics of data journalism.

**Indicative Student Workload**

|  | Full Time | Part Time |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Contact Hours  | 69        | N/A       |
| Non-Contact Hours  | 81        | N/A       |
| Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours                    | N/A       | N/A       |
| TOTAL  | 150       | N/A       |
| <i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i> |           |           |

**ASSESSMENT PLAN**

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

**Component 1**

|              |                                 |            |     |                    |         |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------|-----|--------------------|---------|
| Type:        | Coursework                      | Weighting: | 40% | Outcomes Assessed: | 1, 2, 3 |
| Description: | Individual Portfolio Assessment |            |     |                    |         |

**Component 2**

|              |                                 |            |     |                    |   |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------|-----|--------------------|---|
| Type:        | Coursework                      | Weighting: | 60% | Outcomes Assessed: | 4 |
| Description: | Individual Portfolio Assessment |            |     |                    |   |

**MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR****Explanatory Text**

The Module is assessed by two components: C1 - Coursework - 40% weighting. C2 - Coursework - 60% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

| Module Grade | Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:                                  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>A</b>     | At least 70% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component          |
| <b>B</b>     | At least 60% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component          |
| <b>C</b>     | At least 50% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component          |
| <b>D</b>     | At least 40% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component          |
| <b>E</b>     | At least 35% on weighted aggregate   |
| <b>F</b>     | Less than 35% on weighted aggregate  |
| <b>NS</b>    | Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination |

**Module Requirements**

|                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Prerequisites for Module | Broadcast Journalism BSM130. |
| Corequisites for module  | None.                        |
| Precluded Modules        | None.                        |

**INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 1 BRADSHAW P., 2017. *The online journalism handbook: skills to survive and thrive in the digital age*. Second edition. London: Routledge.
- 2 GARRAND, T., 2006. *Writing for multimedia and the web*. 3rd ed. Burlington: Elsevier.
- 3 GRAY, J., et al., (eds), 2018. *The Data Journalism Handbook*. ; Available at: <http://datajournalismhandbook.org/1.0/en/>.
- 4 HERBERT, J., 2004. *Journalism in the digital age: theory and practice for broadcast, print and on-line media*. Oxford: Focal Press.
- 5 KAWAMOTO, K., 2013. *Digital journalism: emerging media and the changing horizons of journalism*. Lanham: Rowan and Littlefield. Kindle e-book.
- 6 KOLODZY, J., 2013. *Convergence journalism: writing and reporting across the news media*. Oxford: Rowman and Littlefield. Kindle e-book.
- 7 SHANAHAN, M., 2017. *Journalism, online comments and the future of public discourse*. Oxford: Routledge. Kindle edition.
- 8 WARD, M., 2013. *Journalism online*. Oxford: Focal Press. Kindle e-book.