

**REGULATIONS FOR THE  
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM (PDipJ)  
AND THE DEGREE OF  
MASTER OF JOURNALISM (MJ)**

*(See also General Regulations)*

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference indicating that the work was submitted to The University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

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**Admission requirements**

MJ 1. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism or the degree of Master of Journalism, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) shall hold
  - (i) a Bachelor's degree with honours from this University; or
  - (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
- (c) who seek admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong in which the language of instruction and/or examination is not English shall have a score of 587 or above (paper-based test) or 240 or above (computer-based test) or 95 or above (Internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a minimum overall band of 7.0 with no subtest lower than 6.0 in International English Language Testing System (IELTS); and
- (d) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required.

MJ 2. Candidates who do not hold a Bachelor's degree with honours from this University or another qualification of equivalent standard may in exceptional circumstances be permitted to register if they possess proven professional experience in journalism, show evidence of excellence in the practice of journalism and proof of competence in the English language and satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if appropriate.

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**Qualifying examination**

MJ 3.

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic abilities or their abilities to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent.
  - (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register in the curriculum until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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**Award of Postgraduate Diploma**

MJ 4. To be eligible for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) shall follow instruction on the syllabuses prescribed and complete all written and practical work which may be required; and
  - (c) satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations as set out below.
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**Award of Master degree**

MJ 5. To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Journalism, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) shall follow instruction on the syllabuses prescribed and complete all written and practical work which may be required; and
- (c) shall satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations as set out below.

MJ 6. Candidates who have been admitted to the courses leading to the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism and who have completed the curriculum for the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism and satisfied the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below, may be considered for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Journalism within 5 years of their completion of the curriculum of Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism. If candidates are so admitted, and complete the prescribed curriculum for the degree of Master of Journalism, they shall be eligible for the degree of Master of Journalism, but shall not be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism. Candidates admitted under this regulation to the courses leading to the award of Master of Journalism who fail to satisfy the examiners under MJ5 but who satisfy the examiners under MJ4 shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism.

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### **Length of curriculum**

MJ 7. The curriculum of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism shall extend over not less than one academic year and not more than two academic years of part-time study or equivalent, and shall include examinations administered in accordance with the regulations and syllabuses set out below. Candidates are required to apply for leave of absence if they are not enrolled in any courses during a semester.

MJ 8. The curriculum of the Master of Journalism shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study, or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, with a minimum of 360 hours of prescribed work, and shall include examinations administered in accordance with the regulations and syllabuses set out below. Candidates are required to apply for leave of absence if they are not enrolled in any courses during a semester.

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### **Completion of curriculum**

MJ 9. To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall follow the instruction on the syllabuses prescribed and complete satisfactorily all prescribed written work and practical work; and
  - (b) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of examination.
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### **Assessment**

MJ 10. An assessment of the candidates' coursework during their studies, including completion of written assignments and participation in practical work, as the case may be, may be taken into account in determining the candidates' result in each written paper; or, where so prescribed in the syllabuses, may constitute part or whole of the examination of one or more courses.

MJ 11. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners at their first attempt in not more than half of the number of units to be examined, whether by means of written examination papers or coursework assessment, during any of the academic years of study, may be permitted

- (a) to present themselves either for re-examination in the failed course or courses, with or without repeating any part of the curriculum, or for examination in the same number of new units, except those units designated as compulsory, which are not replaceable under this provision; or
- (b) to repeat a year of the curriculum and present themselves for examination in the courses prescribed for the repeated year.

MJ 12. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in any prescribed practical work may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in practical work within a specified period.

MJ 13. Candidates who are unable because of illness to be present for one or more papers in any written examination may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination to be held before the beginning of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of the candidates' absence from the examination.

MJ 14. Candidates who

- (a) are not permitted to present themselves for re-examination in any written paper or any course examined by means of coursework assessment, or in practical work in which they have failed to satisfy the examiners and are not permitted to repeat a year of the curriculum under the provisions of Regulation MJ 11; or
- (b) have failed to satisfy the examiners in any written paper or any course examined by means of coursework assessment, or practical work at a second attempt; or in any new course selected under the provision of MJ 11(a)

may be required to discontinue their studies under the provisions of General Regulation G 12.

MJ 15. Candidates who have committed plagiarism in any written paper, examination, or other classroom assignment may be required to discontinue their studies.

### **Assessment results**

MJ 16. A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the postgraduate diploma or degree requirements and are to be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism or Master of Journalism shall be published. Candidates who have shown exceptional merit at the whole examination may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' postgraduate or degree diplomas.

## **SYLLABUSES FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM (PDIPJ) AND THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF JOURNALISM (MJ)**

### **PURPOSE**

The diploma/degree is a professional programme designed to produce graduates for the local, regional and international media and related industries who would practice in English or Chinese, or both. The curriculum emphasizes the practice of journalism as well as the ethics, laws, history and principles of journalism. It also has a special focus on issues facing Greater China and the Asia Pacific region.

Candidates are trained to think critically and intelligently about the basic issues of the day in all forms of media. Graduates will not only be competent practitioners of journalism, but they will also help raise standards of the field by pioneering in various forms of journalism, including print, broadcasting and new media. Information technology is an integral part of the programme. Students will also be able to apply their training in critical thinking and communication skills to careers in other professions and industries.

### **CURRICULUM**

#### **Master of Journalism**

The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time

study, or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, with a minimum of 360 hours of prescribed work. To receive the award of Master of Journalism, candidates shall complete not less than 30 and not more than 36 units, including 4 core courses as prescribed in the syllabuses below as partial requirement for the fulfilment of the degree. Waivers may be granted for core courses to students with extensive professional experience, subject to the approval of the Director.

Candidates may take no more than 6 units or credits that satisfy two courses offered under approved graduate-level degree curricula in the Faculties of Arts, Law, Social Sciences and other divisions of teaching. A list of such elective courses will be published by the Programme Director from year to year. Students may seek approval from the Director for permission to take courses outside the published list.

#### Optional Summer Institutes/ Programmes:

Summer programmes/courses may be offered in conjunction with well-established universities in Mainland China or overseas. Candidates could be exempted from up to 6 units upon successful completion of the programme and credits could be given.

### **Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism**

The programme shall extend over not less than one academic year and not more than two academic years of part-time study. To receive the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism, candidates shall complete not less than 15 and not more than 21 units, including 3 compulsory courses as partial requirement for the fulfilment of the degree. Waivers may be granted for core courses to students with extensive professional experience, subject to the approval of the Director.

The courses listed below will not be offered each year; depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered and the courses listed below may be offered in a different year of study. Candidates should consult the Programme Director for the courses offered in any one year.

#### Compulsory course list:

- JMSC6001. Reporting and writing (3 Units)\*
  - JMSC6093. Video news production (3 Units)
  - JMSC6109. Media law and ethics (3 Units)\*
  - JMSC6110. Digital journalism principles and tools (3 Units)\*
- \* core courses for Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism*

#### Elective course list:

##### General courses

- JMSC6015. Advanced reporting and writing (Chinese) (3 Units)
- JMSC6024. Cultural studies of the media (3 Units)
- JMSC6025. Literary journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6040. Special topics in journalism I (3 Units)
- JMSC6041. Special topics in journalism II (3 Units)
- JMSC6044. Master's project (6 Units)
- JMSC6045. Special topics in journalism III (3 Units)
- JMSC6046. Special topics in journalism IV (3 Units)
- JMSC6055. Research methods for media studies (3 Units)
- JMSC6059. Legal reporting (3 Units)
- JMSC6064. Media, politics and public affairs (3 Units)
- JMSC6103. Reporting global affairs (3 Units)
- JMSC6108. Broadcast journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6111. Long form and feature writing (English) (3 Units)
- JMSC6112. Media law: comparative studies (3 Units)
- JMSC6113. Data journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6114. Opinion writing (3 Units)
- JMSC7001. Entertainment, arts and culture journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC7002. News editing (3 Units)

**China courses**

- JMSC6027. Covering China (3 Units)
- JMSC6067. Special topics in covering China I (3 Units)
- JMSC6068. Special topics in covering China II (3 Units)
- JMSC6074. Chinese non-fiction writing (3 Units)
- JMSC6104. Readings in China media and society (3 Units)

**Business and finance courses**

- JMSC7003. Global economic journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC7004. Readings in global business journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC7005. Special topics in global business journalism I (3 Units)
- JMSC7006. Special topics in global business journalism II (3 Units)
- JMSC7007. Interpreting and using business journalism in a global era (3 Units)
- JMSC7008. Global financial journalism (3 Units)

**Multimedia courses**

- JMSC6082. Photojournalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6085. Documentary film appreciation (3 Units)
- JMSC6100. Documentary video production (3 Units)
- JMSC6101. Radio news (3 Units)
- JMSC6105. Documentary films and social movements (3 Units)
- JMSC6106. The craft and art of documentary film editing (3 Units)

**Science, health and environmental courses**

- JMSC6088. Reporting the environment (3 Units)
- JMSC6090. Reporting health and medicine (3 Units)
- JMSC6102. Environmental communication (3 Units)
- JMSC6107. Reporting science (3 Units)

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### Compulsory courses

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#### **JMSC6001. Reporting and writing (3 Units)**

As a key building block in the MJ programme, this course covers issues applicable to all media — print, broadcast and online. It emphasizes the development of reporting and writing skills as well as journalistic instincts and ethical judgment. Students learn by doing, sometimes under the pressure of deadlines and always under the supervision of editor-teachers who are experienced professionals. Students will be introduced to specialized reporting on such topics as politics, environment, education, social welfare and local, regional and international affairs.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **JMSC6093. Video news production (3 Units)**

This course develops student skills in the production of television and video news stories. In small production teams, students research, organize, report, shoot, write, voice and edit their own features news stories. Students are encouraged to produce their own features of up to 3-minutes in duration while considering the demands of longer form magazine-type packages. Students are expected to gain proficiency in the use of a range of digital video cameras and edit with the tools of Adobe Premiere.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **JMSC6109. Media law and ethics (3 Units)**

The course introduces students to the laws relating to freedom of expression, defamation, privacy, information access, contempt of court, obscenity and regulatory schemes for broadcast and the Internet. It also examines the legality of newsgathering practice such as undercover reporting, deception and the use of hidden cameras. While the course focuses on Hong Kong, the course will also address major media law developments in Mainland China, the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **JMSC6110. Digital journalism principles and tools (3 Units)**

In this hands-on course students will learn about the state of the digital news landscape, the deep connection between media and technology, and the digital tools that the modern day journalist must master.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### Elective courses:

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### General courses

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#### **JMSC6015. Advanced reporting and writing (Chinese) (3 Units)**

This course has goals similar to JMSC6014, Advanced reporting and writing (English), but adapted to

incorporate the craft and traditions of Chinese-language story-telling. Special attention will be placed on the use of action, dialogue and description to produce journalistic writing in Chinese that informs, enlightens and entertains while conforming to principles of accuracy, fairness and balance.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6024. Cultural studies of the media (3 Units)**

The course will explore theoretical perspectives on the role of media in society, the global multimedia environment and the impact of the media on civil society and public criticism. The course will review the various theoretical approaches to media studies, including the works of Marshall McLuhan, Jurgen Habermas, Pierre Bourdieu, Edward Said, and James W. Carey.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6025. Literary journalism (3 Units)**

This course demonstrates how journalism can rise to the level of quality non-fiction literature. Students will read a rich variety of journalistic works produced in English in Asia and abroad, and analyze why they succeed on both literary and journalistic levels. The class will identify the tools and techniques writers employ to construct evocative and enduring true stories, and apply them to their own writing, building characters that come to life on the page, and scenes that make the reader keep turning the page. Students learn to become better readers and writers by closely analyzing the assigned readings and the work of their peers.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6040. Special topics in journalism I (3 Units)**

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6041. Special topics in journalism II (3 Units)**

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6044. Master's project (6 Units)**

Students will work with a faculty advisor to explore a topic in depth, conducting original research and field interviews. Students will learn to report and organize the large amount of information gathered and present it in one of several possible formats: a magazine-length article of about 5,000 English words; a new media production of comparable length and depth, including photos, video or other visual elements;

a video production, or a research paper. The expectation is that the master's project will be written or presented in English. Chinese will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances, and then only if the subject matter warrants it. Students may be required to attend seminars designed to assist in the reporting, writing and completion of the project. The project will be taken over two semesters. Students will normally enrol in the second or subsequent semesters of their studies.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6045. Special topics in journalism III (3 Units)**

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6046. Special topics in journalism IV (3 Units)**

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6055. Research methods for media studies (3 Units)**

This course is designed to provide advanced training in qualitative and quantitative approaches applicable to the study of journalism and the news media. Students focus on a variety of philosophical and conceptual approaches to research as well as tools that help them conduct scholarly research in journalism. The course surveys the range of research methodologies currently used in media studies and the strengths and weaknesses associated with the respective research outcomes. Students taking the course are expected to have a basic understanding of research methodologies.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6059. Legal reporting (3 Units)**

The course explores the challenges of covering the courts and other aspects of legal reporting, and examines styles of reporting and writing, including a study of several high profile cases. It also provides an overview of media coverage of the courts and legal issues and a review of court reporting restrictions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6064. Media, politics and public affairs (3 Units)**

The course explores the role of the media in the political process in Hong Kong and overseas, and provides an introduction to public affairs reporting. Students will look at the role the media plays in political life and develop stories about political issues. Students will also undertake a project in public

affairs reporting, and report in depth on a matter of public importance.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6103. Reporting global affairs (3 Units)**

This course introduces students to the challenges and rewards of reporting on global issues that are shaping the world in the 21st century. These range from wars and conflicts to scarcities of natural resources such as water and oil, food shortages and climate change. Students will learn the background to these global issues, look at the efforts that are being made to solve them, and study how they are being reported in the news. The course will have a practical element and allow students to report on these issues for the course news website.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6108. Broadcast journalism (3 Units)**

This course focuses on the practice of reporting news and features for broadcast. Emphasis is placed on writing for the ear and the marriage of words and picture. After an introduction to the development of radio and television news internationally, students receive hands-on training during intensive weekly workshop sessions. Students work with news agency video to structure and hone writing skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6111. Long form and feature writing (English) (3 Units)**

This course aims to widen students' knowledge of journalistic forms and deepen their story-telling ability in English. It focuses on profiles, features, news features, news analyses and opinion writing, including editorials, columns, essays and reviews. Through lectures, examination of quality works and writing assignments, students learn how facts can be turned into stories with insights and points of view.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6112. Media law: comparative studies (3 Units)**

A comparative overview of global media law trends, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, the course covers key legal and policy developments, including defamation, privacy, information access, copyright, jurisdictional disputes and regulations involving broadcast, the Internet and media ownership.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Prerequisite: JMSC6109. Media law and ethics unless exempted by the Programme Director

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### **JMSC6113. Data journalism (3 Units)**

This course will provide students the tools needed to find and ask for information, basic computer-assisted reporting skills to make sense of data, and journalistic techniques to identify, report and write the stories for a general audience.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6114. Opinion writing (3 Units)**

The course will give students an overview of the dynamic field of opinion journalism – a growing area that includes Op-Ed articles, personal essays, blog posts, columns and more. In this writing-centered seminar, students will learn to pinpoint story ideas, craft sharp pitches and write lively and compelling essays. Students who work hard will become better writers.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC7001. Entertainment, arts and culture journalism (3 Units)**

This course examines coverage of entertainment, arts and culture, a key component for most media. It will review some of the sensationalistic stories that journalists have written or produced about entertainers in a variety of media in recent years. Do they rely on “gossip?” Do celebrities manipulate the media? What makes a “scandal?” The course also will explore coverage of the local arts and culture scene to learn how to develop and tell good stories about artists of all types.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC7002. News editing (3 Units)**

The course teaches students how to line edit, concept edit, prepare headlines and other graphic elements, rewrite and compile news stories, avoid legal and ethical quandaries, and select and package copy and art, including multimedia. These skills are taught for print and Web publication.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Prerequisite: JMSC6001. Reporting and writing

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## **China courses**

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### **JMSC6027. Covering China (3 Units)**

The course introduces students to the methods, as well as the ethical and cultural issues, involved in reporting on contemporary China. The course examines the public information structure in the People’s Republic of China, news sources and the use of published documents and statistics, with special focus on the politics and economy of China. It will also give an overview of the state of the media and news topics in China.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6067. Special topics in covering China I (3 Units)**

This course provides for in-depth studies on specialized areas of news coverage on the People’s Republic of China. The aim is to deepen the student’s ability to understand and report on China. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The course also provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media studies for publication in academic journals, but is primarily aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on news coverage of China.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6068. Special topics in covering China II (3 Units)**

This course provides for in-depth studies on specialized areas of news coverage on the People’s Republic of China. The aim is to deepen the student’s ability to understand and report on China. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The course also provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media studies for publication in academic journals, but is primarily aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on news coverage of China.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**JMSC6074. Chinese non-fiction writing (3 Units)**

Language of Instruction: Putonghua

This course reviews major forms of factual-based journalism, including reportage, non-fiction writing, literary journalism, memoir and documentaries. It aims to give students a solid foundation of non-fiction forms and reporting and writing techniques. The course focuses on three aspects: 1) a study of key figures in Chinese non-fiction, from Liu Binyan and Lu Yuegang to Czech writer Egon Erwin Kisch; 2) a study of basic non-fiction writing techniques through published works; 3) a study of non-fiction research and reporting techniques.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**JMSC6104. Readings in China media and society (3 Units)**

The course explores the state of media in China, its historical development, its transformation and its role in the political, social and economic life of China. Through lectures and seminars with China experts and veteran journalists, the course offers an overview of the challenges in covering China, and the state of coverage in the international and Chinese-language media.

Requirements: Chinese language proficiency

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**Business and finance courses****JMSC7003. Global economic journalism (3 Units)**

This course focuses on the global economic system and its components, including local, national and regional economies. The course familiarizes students with global macroeconomic theories and their histories, and how to use them journalistically. Economic indicators, central banks and their regulatory regime, international trade and its regulation, and supranational organizations such as the World Bank and IMF comprise the core of the course. Major issues such as economic growth; inflation; protectionism and international economic competition; development economics; and the global economic system comprise the coverage areas of the course. The course prepares students for reporting positions at financial media, including newspapers, specialized Web sites, broadcasters and wire services. This is a hands-on course during which students will produce multiple news packages for publication.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**JMSC7004. Readings in global business journalism (3 Units)**

The course includes supervised readings designed for the individual student's professional goals. Course outcomes may include formal research papers, literature reviews and news packages for publication.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Prerequisites: JMSC7007. Interpreting and using business journalism in a global era and either JMSC7008. Global financial journalism or JMSC7003. Global economic journalism

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**JMSC7005. Special topics in global business journalism I (3 Units)**

This survey course isolates and examines current critical issues in global business journalism. Topics vary. Examples of special topics include covering Asia-Pacific's financial markets; the international energy markets; business and climate change; covering China's economy; and writing business features. Course outcomes may include research papers, literature and current-events reviews, and news packages for publication, depending on the nature of the special topic.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Prerequisites: JMISC7007. Interpreting and using business journalism in a global era and either JMISC7008. Global financial journalism or JMISC7003. Global economic journalism

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### **JMISC7006. Special topics in global business journalism II (3 Units)**

This survey course isolates and examines current critical issues in global business journalism. Topics vary. Examples of special topics include covering Asia-Pacific's financial markets; the international energy markets; business and climate change; covering China's economy; and writing business features. Course outcomes may include research papers, literature and current-events reviews, and news packages for publication, depending on the nature of the special topic.

Assessment: 100% coursework

Prerequisites: JMISC7007. Interpreting and using business journalism in a global era and either JMISC7008. Global financial journalism or JMISC7003. Global economic journalism

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### **JMISC7007. Interpreting and using business journalism in a global era (3 Units)**

For news and non-news majors, this course analyzes global sources and types of media content related to the securities markets, national and international economic regulation, the global banking system, international trade, and macroeconomics. The course also surveys major financial issues likely to dominate over the next three to five years, such as climate change, trade harmonization, multinational companies and global market regulation. The course emphasizes global financial news and how to use it in personal and professional decision-making.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMISC7008. Global financial journalism (3 Units)**

Students learn how to conceptualize, source and prepare news reports on global financial markets, commercial transactions and company performance. The course covers stock, bond and derivatives markets; company earnings, balance-sheet and cash-flow analysis; commercial and investment banking; and the "deals" market. The course prepares students for reporting positions at financial media, including newspapers, specialized Web sites, broadcasters and global wire services. This is a hands-on course during which students will produce multiple news packages for publication.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **Multimedia courses**

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### **JMISC6082. Photojournalism (3 Units)**

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of news photography: how to operate a professional digital camera and how to capture professional-quality news images. Using Hong Kong as a backdrop, students learn how to shoot images of urban news and feature events. By the end of the class each student will have produced a comprehensive photographic portfolio.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMISC6085. Documentary film appreciation (3 Units)**

This course provides a comprehensive survey of the history and development of the documentary film in North America, Europe, and Asia. It traces the evolution of the genre from the late 19th century to the present. It discusses issues involved in the making of non-fiction film, including style, ethics, voice, objectivity/subjectivity, distribution platforms, and censorship. A unique section of the course will

explore young independent filmmakers in Asia. Emphasis will be placed on in-depth critical analysis of films.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6100. Documentary video production (3 Units)**

This course trains students to produce documentary videos for television. The course covers research, exploration of different styles and perspectives, and the structuring of documentaries as well as ethical and legal issues. Guest speakers, including television programmers and funding agencies, will shed light on fundraising and the pitching of ideas. Students will work in groups to produce a project proposal and a 20-minute documentary.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6101. Radio news (3 Units)**

This course provides an introduction to the radio news industry, its traditions and influence. Students will also learn the practical skills to report and produce radio news stories and current affairs of radio programming. Students learn radio writing and production, including daily coverage, interviews and longer-format features. Class projects include field reporting and the use of digital audio equipment to produce audio reports and programs for use by broadcasters or on Internet media outlets.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6105. Documentary films and social movements (3 Units)**

This course aims to foster an understanding of documentary film not only as a diverse art form but also as an important medium for presenting social and political movements since the 1960s. This course will also examine how documentary filmmakers engage with society at large and how their films are used as organizing tools for social movements.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6106. The craft and art of documentary film editing (3 Units)**

This course aims to guide student through the various stages of digital editing and post-production phase of documentary production. Students will actively participate in the editing of their own material.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **Science, health and environmental courses**

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### **JMSC6088. Reporting the environment (3 Units)**

This course will look in depth at several areas of the environment that are currently in the public eye to provide an understanding of the issues behind these areas and look at how they are being reported. Students will report and write stories for an online environmental newswire.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6090. Reporting health and medicine (3 Units)**

This course provides students with the basic skills and knowledge required to specialise in this rapidly growing field of journalism. Students will be introduced to basic concepts of clinical medicine and epidemiology, learn how to interpret medical statistics, write stories based on research appearing in

medical journals and learn to evaluate the different sources of medical news.

Students do not need a background in science or medicine to take this course. The course will have a strong practical element and students will visit clinics and research centres and get a first hand understanding of what doctors do, and how the health system works. They will also write health stories for a course health news website.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6102. Environmental communication (3 Units)**

This course provides a survey of the major environmental issues facing the world, and the global efforts to mitigate them. Students will also study classical works of environmental journalism, such as Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, and genres of online environmental communication.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **JMSC6107. Reporting science (3 Units)**

This course introduces students to the skills required to make a career in science journalism. From exploring the origins of the universe and the future of life on earth, to producing technologies to improve our lives, science deals with issues that are both exciting and important. Students will learn to write both science feature stories, as well as shorter news stories.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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