

Undergraduate

Alumni Stories



JM
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HKU

Journalism and Media Studies Centre

Founded in 1999, the Journalism and Media Studies Centre (JMSC) at The University of Hong Kong (HKU) offers professional journalism education at Hong Kong's premier university in an exciting international environment.

The JMSC offers graduate and undergraduate degrees, seminars, workshops and courses for news professionals at all levels of expertise. Leveraging its unique position at the crossroads of China, Asia and the West, the JMSC's programs and research have made it a focus for understanding the exciting changes underway in journalism throughout the region. The JMSC's emphasis on professional education is designed to produce graduates for the local, regional and international media.

Our home at historic Eliot Hall

The JMSC is housed in Eliot Hall, which was built in 1914, three years after the founding of HKU. In 2001, the university transformed Eliot Hall into a state-of-the-art facility for training journalists that features the latest in computer and multi-media technology, while also preserving Eliot Hall's rich heritage.

Our vision and mission

Vision: Promote civil society and an informed citizenry through a vibrant and professional news media; enhance professional standards and journalistic integrity.

Mission: Pursue excellence in journalism and foster Asian voices in the international media.

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Joyce Choi

BJ 2009

Staff writer, *Muse* (Hong Kong)

“The BJ curriculum provided me a balanced education. I was trained as a journalist at the JMSC and also matured intellectually through reading other academic disciplines at HKU. I benefitted, in particular, from the internships JMSC helped arrange. The opportunities provided a springboard to my journalism experiences since. Now I’m pursuing long-form narrative journalism, a dream job I would not have realized without JMSC.”



Joyce Choi, a staff writer at *Muse* magazine, also earned minors in Chinese language and literature as well as comparative literature.

Joyce explored JMSC opportunities and resources, and turned them into professional experiences. In her first year, she worked for NOW Business News Channel as a wire-desk intern and volunteered in Cambodia. She then spent a year on exchange at the University of Missouri, where she found a passion for photography. She extended her stay in the U.S. to intern for a San Francisco-based ethnic news wire, New America Media, and later went to Washington D.C. to pursue a photo internship with *National Geographic Traveler* magazine. She returned to HKU in 2008 and began an internship at *cnn.com*, which later turned into a freelance opportunity to assist *cnn.com* staff covering the Beijing Olympics. In her final semester, she joined other JMSC students in a Magnum photography workshop led by award-winning Taiwanese photographer Chien-chi Chang. She is now a staff writer for *Muse*, the Hong Kong-based literary arts and cultural magazine.

Andy Ho

BJ 2009

Assistant Producer, Reuters Insider Team
Thomson Reuters (Hong Kong)

“Studying for my BJ at the JMSC, I was able to discover my strengths and weaknesses, and most important of all, I found my direction. The ability to do a second major is definitely a plus, as journalists would definitely benefit from a more diversified understanding of issues. A journalist today is expected to be versatile and the programme equips us with the skills and flexibility to adapt to the changing demands of work. Excellent lecturers and staff at JMSC made all the difference.”

Andy worked for several international news organizations before landing his job at Thomson Reuters.



It wasn't easy for Andy when he graduated during a major worldwide recession, but the Singapore native took advantage of a Hong Kong internship at the *International Herald Tribune* on the photo desk and then six months on the news desk of *Financial Times* as an editorial assistant, which brought him to such places as the Boao Forum in Asia and many cities in China's southern Guangdong province. He felt comfortable in these roles as he had had opportunities while at the JMSC, including work at CNN helping to develop its lifestyles beta site, CNNGo, and at *South China Morning Post* reporting stories for its China desk.

While finishing his stint at FT, he found out about an opportunity at the financial news wire Thomson Reuters and immediately applied. With a remarkable string of work experiences already under his belt, Andy was able to land a full-time job at Thomson Reuters, where he now works as an Assistant Producer for the Reuters Insider Team.

Jaymee Ng

BJ 2009

Anchor/Reporter/Researcher, NHK World
(Hong Kong)

Jaymee Ng is the new face of NHK World in Hong Kong. NHK World is the international branch of Japan's public broadcaster. She joined NHK World in late 2009 as a reporter and researcher, and then began anchoring the weekly China and Hong Kong economic updates.

"JMSC equipped me well for entering the journalism world. It provided me the training I needed to become a broadcast journalist. One of the JMSC's many advantages is its good connections with both local and international news agencies. The internships arranged by JMSC were particularly helpful; they were valuable experiences that I will always treasure."

Jaymee's first internship was at *Wen Wei Po*, a Chinese-language newspaper, where she covered the political beat. After her second year at JMSC, she became a part-time producer for an English-language business program, *Money Magazine*, for Television Broadcasts (TVB), where she worked for more than a year while continuing her studies.

After TVB, she freelanced for international news agencies, including Al Jazeera English, SBS Australia and *International Herald Tribune*. Jaymee, whose second major at HKU was Comparative Literature, is also studying for an MPhil degree in Comparative Literature at HKU.



Jaymee Ng works as an anchor, reporter and researcher for Japan's public broadcaster.

Diana Wong

BJ 2007

Information Officer, Hong Kong Government

“In my years of university life, compared with my peers in the field, I was equipped with good interviewing and reporting skills. Meanwhile, the internships and the part-time jobs I got broadened my networks, which are very crucial for a journalist. Last but not least, JMSC professors, alumni and staff supported students, providing useful advice and sharing their experience. The help and care that helped us achieve are highly appreciated.”

Diana became a reporter and gained knowledge of local media before turning to government service.



Diana worked hard inside and outside of class to sharpen her interviewing and reporting skills. For one of her classes, she wrote a memorable story about a man who shines shoes for a living in Central Hong Kong. While at the JMSC, she did internships at the *Sing Pao* newspaper, Radio Television Hong Kong and Television Broadcasts (TVB). The last internship led to a part-time job while she was still a student, and a full-time job after she graduated.

Now, as an Information Officer for the Hong Kong Government, Diana helps develop the government's responses to media inquiries and helps analyze public opinion on issues of the day.

Priscilla Ng

BJ 2007

Reporter/ News Anchor, TVB News (Hong Kong)

“The JMSC opened up a world of opportunities for me to explore my strengths and interests. I am incredibly proud to be part of the first batch of BJ graduates. The JMSC was the ultimate nurturing ground for me. The professors were hugely supportive, insightful and encouraging – they not only gave me the knowledge I needed to excel in the field, they also instilled within me a great sense of confidence.”



Priscilla, shown here in the TVB newsroom, worked her way up fast in television news.

Priscilla demonstrated many strengths and interests while at the JMSC. In one class, she wrote a powerful profile about an academic prodigy from a poor background. She also wrote about students getting into trouble with runaway use of their credit cards. Beyond the classroom, she interned at Star News Asia, a regional broadcaster, where she began working as an associate producer in the current affairs department after she left the JMSC.

At Star Asia, Priscilla produced daily stories on a wide array of topics. Her work there caught the attention of TVB News, where she is now a reporter and an anchor, and continuing to demonstrate her strengths and interests.

Robin Pang

BJ 2008

Assistant Vice President of Commercial Banking
HSBC (Hong Kong)

“The world-class faculty at JMSC has led me to think not as a university student, but like a global citizen. The training was truly inspiring and intellectually challenging. I grew as a person and am grateful for the opportunities I was able to have here.”



Robin took his global outlook to the global banking giant, HSBC.

Robin contributed to his global outlook by pursuing overseas opportunities. He worked a summer in Brussels and spent a year on exchange at the University of California, Davis. While at the JMSC, he also interned at *Eastweek* magazine, Television Broadcasts (TVB) and the *South China Morning Post*. He completed his Bachelor of Journalism Degree with distinction in 2008 and then joined the banking giant HSBC. In his last written assignment for a JMSC graduate-level course, which he had special permission to take, Robin wrote movingly about going back to his father’s now-heavily polluted hometown in China.

Samantha Wang

BJ 2008

Account Executive, Hill & Knowlton Asia
(Hong Kong)

“The JMSC inspired me a lot. It is more than an academic program. It offers internship opportunities, exchange programs and other activities. Almost all the students can find their favorites and develop their own career.”

Samantha took advantage of several JMSC internships such as at China Central Television (CCTV) Hong Kong, where she covered the 10th anniversary of the return of Hong Kong to mainland Chinese rule, and *Headline Daily*, a local Hong Kong newspaper, where she wrote about the controversial demolition of Queen’s Pier.

Samantha went to work for *Ming Pao Daily News* after a series of internships paved the way.



These experiences led *Ming Pao Daily News*, a leading Hong Kong newspaper, to hire this Shanghai native.

For two years, Samantha covered the financial beat, focusing on listed mainland companies in property and automobile industries. A story she co-authored in 2009 on China’s macro-economic control was honored as runner up for “Best Business News Writing” by the Newspaper Society of Hong Kong.

In 2010, Samantha joined the financial communications team at Hill & Knowlton, the global public relations company.

Marco Lui

BJ 2007, MJ 2010

Reporter, Bloomberg News (Hong Kong)

“The vision and flexibility of the BJ curriculum shaped me not only as a journalist, but also as a generalist who knows about different global issues. The BJ program prepared me to face new challenges every day. My interest in finance was cultivated during my studies – I majored in economics and finance as well as journalism. Thanks, JMSC, for getting me prepared.”

Marco was recruited by Bloomberg after a successful internship there.



Marco's two undergraduate majors – journalism and economics and finance – and his internship experiences at such places as Associated Press and The Standard newspaper served him well. Not long after completing his BJ degree in 2007, he was writing his own column in *MoneyTimes*, a weekly magazine owned by *Hong Kong Economic Times*, a leading Chinese-language business newspaper. In the column, “Fund Focus,” Marco commented on the global mutual funds market. The column led to his recruitment in Hong Kong as a marketing associate by Franklin Templeton Investments, a U.S.-based fund group.

In 2009, Marco entered the JMSC's Master of Journalism program to further pursue his interest in business and financial journalism. He landed a ten-week internship at the international business news service Bloomberg, which hired him after graduation as a reporter in Hong Kong covering financial market news.

Carmen Ng

BJ 2010

Multimedia Producer, Trading China
Thomson Reuters (Hong Kong)

Carmen is a multimedia producer for Thomson Reuters' "Trading China," a news service focusing on China's booming market. She produces video stories and multimedia content with online editing and real-time news delivery for the interactive platform.



Carmen Ng (left), on an ABC News-On-Campus expedition to Vietnam among other students, posed with Vietnam War reporter Al Rockoff (right), a veteran American photojournalist whose coverage of the Khmer Rouge was portrayed in the film "The Killing Fields"

"I was 19 when I first joined the JMSC family, fresh out of high school with a gut feeling that, given my childhood passion in media, the BJ program must be 'it'. Now, leaving JMSC with more friends, mentors and a stronger sense of direction, I can say that 'it' is indeed the 'Shaolin Temple' to nurture not just your skills, but also your views on the fast-changing world and yourself.

I found the JMSC faculty a one-of-a-kind team of teachers who push you to realize your potential with unlimited support. Their emphasis on internships really prepares your mind and skills with first-hand experiences across all types of media, and the humanistic values to hold dear to when you report on other people's lives out there. In this sense, I really think that JMSC equips us with what today's market needs most."

Carmen started as an intern at CCTV in Beijing and CNN in Hong Kong, where she helped produce cultural programs and talk shows. During her final year of study, she helped manage online content for the *International Herald Tribune* and wrote financial news stories for Bloomberg.

After graduation, Carmen took some time to travel and freelance for various media outlets. She produced multimedia content for the Asian edition of *The Wall Street Journal* website, reported from Hong Kong for *The Strait Times* (Singapore), co-produced news reports for Al-Jazeera English, NHK World and The Associated Press, and worked on feature documentaries for SBS Australia.

In 2008, Carmen spent a semester at the University of Maryland, a JMSC exchange partner. Some of her most rewarding experiences in 2010 were to volunteer and film the untold stories of the children in Padang, a quake-hit zone in west Indonesia.

Ng Yuk Hang

BJ 2008

Reporter, *South China Morning Post* (Hong Kong)

“The flexible BJ program helped me learn about the world. With my second major in European Studies, I learned about the European Union; my year in the U.S. on a JMSC exchange helped me learn about the world’s superpower. Meanwhile, the internships that the JMSC arranged for me provided work experience in the real world. The JMSC is like a close family, always there for the BJs, and I am most fortunate to be part of it.”



Hang now works at the
South China Morning Post.

Hang spent a year as an exchange student at the journalism school at the University of Maryland. The experience there helped her realize how journalism could shape history, and made her more determined to be a journalist.

She also took full advantage of the JMSC internship program. She worked for Radio Television Hong Kong and for such international companies as the BBC, Reuters and the *International Herald Tribune*. These internships all helped prepare her for the reporting job she took at the *South China Morning Post* after graduation.

Hang says some of her most memorable experiences at SCMP include the “crazy” 12-hour-plus days covering the swine flu pandemic, which was like “an intensive course in public health,” and a touching story she wrote about a boy with acute leukemia searching for bone marrow donors, which resulted in new donors coming forward.

Takka Wong

BJ 2009

Staff Writer, *Next Magazine* (Hong Kong)

Takka landed a full-time job at *Next Magazine* covering finance and leisure industries after taking part in a training program.

"I appreciate what JMSC offered during my time in the program. I was able to enjoy the flexibility of majoring in journalism while getting a double-minor in geography and sociology. I was exposed to a range of topics that enabled me to explore my interests and develop my potential as a future journalist."



While at the JMSC, Takka went to Fudan University on exchange for one semester, widening his horizons and deepening his knowledge of China. He participated in a workshop co-organized by JMSC and photography master Chang Chien-chi and had his work exhibited in the Hong Kong Arts Centre. He also interned at *Singtao Daily News* and its sister publication *Headline Daily* and at the newsweekly *Yazhou Zhoukan*.

After graduation, he took part in a fresh-graduate training program run by Next Media. In that capacity, he wrote about different schemes run by insurance companies, travel agencies, private schools and beauty salons. He was then hired full-time, and now specializes in reports about the finance and leisure industries.

Mo Lai Ching

BJ 2009

Reporter, Hong Kong Broadband Television

“The three years at the JMSC are one of the most memorable experiences of my life. The professors are experienced and helpful. What they teach students are not only technical skills, but also the journalistic vision they gained from working in media organizations worldwide. The JMSC also gave me a chance to develop a global vision that is crucial to journalists nowadays. My mentors at the JMSC also gave me academic and career advice that inspired me a lot.”

Mo Lai Ching turned an internship at Hong Kong Broadband Television into a full-time job.



“Mo Mo” especially remembers all the street-reporting experience she got during her Chinese news writing class in her second year at the JMSC. She recalls going into Central Hong Kong to ask ordinary people what they thought about a proposal to renovate the Central Police Station, which had stood the way it was for about 100 years.

But she also traveled considerably farther as well, including to Queensland, Australia, for a semester of exchange in 2008. That same year, she got an internship as a reporter for Hong Kong Broadband Television, and that led to a full-time job after graduation.

Who has hired our BJ and MJ graduates?

JMSC graduates have been hired by many organizations in Asia and elsewhere, including newspapers, television news operations, wire services, the financial industry, and government. The companies or organizations where our graduates have received jobs include: (partial listing)

ABC News
Agence France Presse (AFP)
Apple Daily
Asia Society
Asia Television (ATV)
Asian Private Banker
Associated Press
Baker & McKenzie
Bank of China
Bloomberg
Burson Marsteller
Cai Business Indepth
Caixin Media
CBS News
CCTV
China Daily
China Youth Daily
Chinese University of Hong Kong
City University of Hong Kong
CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets
CNN International
CNNGo.com
Commercial Radio
Eight Custom Media
Ernst & Young
Esquire
Forbes
Franklin Templeton Investments
Global Times
GolinHarris
Hang Seng Bank
Hong Kong Academy of Medicine
Hong Kong Disneyland
Hong Kong Economic Journal
Hong Kong Economic Times
Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Hong Kong Institute of Contemporary Culture
Hong Kong SAR Government:
- Civil Engineering Development Department
- Environmental Protection Department
- Hospital Authority Hong Kong
- Information Services Department
- Leisure and Cultural Services Department
- Office of the Ombudsman
- Radio Television Hong Kong
- Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority
Hong Kong Tatler
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
HSBC
Hurriyet Daily News
i-Cable News
Ink Publishing
InMagazine
International Herald Tribune
KPMG
Kroll
Media Corp Singapore
Mergermarket
Ming Pao Daily News
Muse
Netease.com
Newsweek
Next Magazine
NHK World
Now TV
Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide
Oriental Daily
Panacea Publications
Phoenix Television
Russia Today
Shanghai Media Group
Shantou University
Sing Tao Daily
Singapore Press Holdings
Sky News
SmartTone-Vodafone
South China Morning Post
Star TV
Television Broadcasts (TVB)
The Jakarta Globe
The Standard
The University of Hong Kong
The Washington Post
Thomson-Reuters
Time Out Hong Kong
UPI Asia
Voice of America
Wall Street Journal Asia
Wen Wei Po
Yazhou Zhoukan
YLE-Finnish TV

ASIAN VOICES

GLOBAL VIEWS

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