JMSCHKU
The University of Hong Kong
Bachelor of Journalism
2018 – 2019

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Why seek a Bachelor of Journalism degree at HKU?

- The University of Hong Kong is a world-class university located on the doorstep of China in the heart of Asia, one of the world's most vibrant regions.
- The university offers English-language instruction in a multicultural environment.
- The JMSC boasts a faculty of distinguished international journalists and educators.
- The course leads to a dual-major, communications-focused degree that is highly valued by employers.
- The course includes integrated training in print, broadcast and online media.
- The programme features small, skills-oriented classes and personal career guidance.
- There are exclusive seminars with experts and media professionals.
- HKU offers exchange programmes with universities in the US, Europe and elsewhere.

About the JMSC

The Journalism and Media Studies Centre (JMSC) at The University of Hong Kong (HKU) began as a graduate-level programme in 1998 and later added a Bachelor of Journalism programme. At the undergraduate level, we offer 36 courses on topics including news reporting and writing for all forms of traditional and new media; media law and ethics, and journalism history and traditions from regional and global perspectives. The curriculum includes a strong element of instruction in the new, digital media, which are changing the nature of journalism. Special courses are also available, including Independent Study and Chinese News Writing.

Journalists should have a broad education, so we require Bachelor of Journalism students to acquire a second major. We also require students to participate in internship programmes. These requirements, along with exchange programmes with leading universities in the US, Europe, Asia and elsewhere, as well as other special programmes and seminars held throughout the year, help us equip our students with the abilities they need to become the next generation of leaders in the rapidly changing field of journalism.
Curriculum structure

Candidates will earn 240 credits, including a minimum of 54 credits from core courses in journalism, 24 credits from electives in journalism, 6 credits from the capstone experience requirement, 12 credits from the Faculty Global Citizenship requirement and 72 credits from another major.

<table>
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<th>Year 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>A) Language enhancement courses (18 credits)</td>
<td>B) Common core courses (36 credits)</td>
<td>C) Introductory core courses in journalism (24 credits)</td>
<td>BJ major (96 credits)</td>
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<td>D) Journalism summer internship (12 credits)</td>
<td>E) Advanced core courses in journalism (18 credits)</td>
<td>F) Elective courses in journalism (24 credits)</td>
<td>G) Capstone experience requirement (6 credits)</td>
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<td>H) Faculty Global Citizenship requirement (12 credits)</td>
<td>I) Another major (72 credits)</td>
<td>J) Free electives (0–18 credits)</td>
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A) Language enhancement courses (18 credits)
- Core University English
- English in the Discipline
- Chinese

B) Common core courses (36 credits)
- details at commoncore.hku.hk

C) Introductory core courses in journalism (24 credits)
- Principles of Journalism and the News Media
- Fundamentals of Data Journalism
- Reporting and Writing - I
- Reporting and Writing - II

D) Journalism summer internship (12 credits)

E) Advanced core courses in journalism (18 credits)
- Media Law and Ethics
- Video News Production
- Online Journalism

F) Elective courses in journalism (24 credits)
- Feature Writing
- Chinese News Writing
- Journalism Traditions
- Independent Study
- The Press, Politics and Government
- Literary Journalism
- Covering China
- Visual Journalism
- International News
- Reporting Health and Medicine
- Special Topics in Journalism I
- Special Topics in Journalism II
- Anchoring and Video News Writing
- Public Affairs Reporting
- Covering the Environment
- Documentary Film Appreciation
- News Photography
- Supervised Research
- Media Research: An Introduction
- Introduction to Photography
- Advanced Online Journalism
- Introduction to Audio Journalism
- Digital Media and Society
- Fundamentals of Business and Financial Journalism
- Media Research: Concepts and Methods
- Reporting and Writing Practicum
- Introduction to Strategic Communication
- Multimedia Magazine Design
- Economics for Journalists

G) Capstone experience requirement (6 credits) – candidates are required to submit an academic paper or individual project in journalism by taking JMSC4001 ‘Journalism Capstone Experience’ in their final year of study.

H) Faculty Global Citizenship requirement (12 credits)
I) Another major (72 credits)
J) Free electives (0–18 credits)

Note: Curriculum structure is subject to confirmation in Spring 2018
Internships

The JMSC requires students to earn academic credits by working in a media internship during their course of study. Over the years, this has led to an internship network with dozens of local, regional and international media partners, which has enabled JMSC students to gain valuable on-the-job experience. In some cases, the internships have led to full-time jobs.

Our internship partners include:

**Overseas media:** The New York Daily News, The Nation (Bangkok), National Geographic Traveler, New American Media (San Francisco), WGBH TV (Boston), KCTS TV (Seattle), WNYC Public Radio (New York), WRTI-FM (Philadelphia), The Associated Press (Bangkok), Pakistan Press Foundation (Karachi), Malaysiakini.com (Kuala Lumpur).

**Local Chinese media:** TVB, ATV, Cable TV, Now.com, Phoenix TV, RTHK, Commercial Radio, Hong Kong Economic Times, Ming Pao, MingPao.com, Sing Tao Daily, Apple Daily, Wen Wei Po, Headline Daily, AM730, Metropolis Daily, Yazhou Zhoukan, Cup, City Magazine, Next Magazine, East Week.

**PRC media:** CCTV (Beijing), Shanghai Television Station (Shanghai), Shanghai Media Group (Shanghai), China Radio International (Beijing), China Daily (Beijing), Shanghai Daily, Southern Weekend (Guangzhou), 21st Century World Herald (Guangzhou).

Scholarships

Scholarships are available for:

- **International exchanges**

  Students placed in international exchanges can apply for financial assistance from the JMSC Student Exchange Scholarships. Awards are based on financial need, academic achievement and extra-curricular participation.

- **Local and international internships**

  Students placed in unpaid or minimally paid local and international internships can apply for financial assistance from the JMSC Media Internship Fund. Awards are based on financial need, academic achievement and extra-curricular participation.
International student exchange

The JMSC provides opportunities to learn beyond the classroom by emphasising social and intellectual interaction and encouraging students to ‘Think global’. With our exchange programme, students can apply for semester- or year-long exchanges at top journalism schools, including the University of Missouri, the University of Maryland and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the US, the Danish School of Media and Journalism in Denmark and Sciences Po in Paris, France. Through a separately run HKU programme, students can also apply for exchange opportunities at more than 100 other universities around the world.

Career opportunities

Graduates of our programme have gone on to successful careers in print, television, radio and online media. Some are seeking postgraduate degrees and others are pursuing careers in fields such as banking, business and government service. A JMSC journalism education prepares students for different careers by emphasising analytical and communication skills that are valued by employers in all fields.

Admissions

The JMSC seeks intellectually curious students with a passion for learning. If you are keen to question, to explore and to be challenged, we welcome your application.

For admissions information, please contact:

Admissions Office
The University of Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2241 5886
Email: admissions@hku.hk
Website: www.hku.hk/admission

For further information, please contact:

Journalism and Media Studies Centre
Eliot Hall, The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 3917 1156
Fax: (852) 2858 8736
Email: jmscbj@hku.hk
Website: jmsc.hku.hk/undergraduate
Isak Ladegard
BJ 2012

“Through guidance, encouragement and detailed feedback on my work, the JMSc’s instructors have taught me lessons that go way beyond journalistic work. I learned that in the fast-changing world we live in, nothing is more important than adaptability, as the demands of the job market change and technological opportunities arise. While writing is my core skill, I have also learned to use photography, data mining and statistics in my reporting.”

Isak graduated from The University of Hong Kong with a first-class honours bachelor’s degree with majors in journalism and sociology. He started out freelancing during his studies, and in his last semester his professional assignments took up more time than his classes. After graduating, he wrote for some of the best newspapers and magazines in his home country, Norway, while travelling the world. He did first-hand reporting in places such as South Korea, Kenya, Japan, Hong Kong, Macau, and mainland China, covering a wide range of topics including commercial cloning, green technology in African slums, grassroots capitalism in North Korea, book smuggling in China, plastic surgery tourism, and middle-aged hikikomori.

In 2013, Isak entered a fully funded PhD programme in sociology at Boston College. His research interest is the interplay between information technology, deviance and anonymity. As such, one of his ongoing projects is about the online drug trade and how drug dealers experience their business when transactions take place entirely on the internet and their ‘brokers’ are unknowing mailmen—a topic he has also covered as a journalist.

Livia Yap
BJ 2016

“I’ve never once regretted my decision to go to JMSc. In four years, I made good friends, learned practical skills, and grew intellectually and emotionally. I really benefitted from our smaller class sizes that allowed us to learn from the professors and fellow students in a nurturing, supportive environment.”

Livia double majored in Journalism and Global Studies and worked for more than five organisations during her time at HKU, including Bloomberg News and the Associated Press. She spent a semester at Sciences Po in Champagne, France, in her third year, where she was part of a select group of international students that completed the certificate in journalism and communications.

Born and raised in Singapore, Livia was a recipient of the HKU Foundation Scholarship for Outstanding International Students, the Lee Shau Kee Scholarship, and graduated with first-class honours. She currently works as a reporter at Bloomberg News in Singapore.
James Chan
BJ 2013

James Chan won a full scholarship of HK$600,000 to study for the Master of Public Policy degree at the University of Oxford. The photo was taken at the matriculation ceremony in Oxford’s Sheldonian Theatre.

“THINK GLOBAL — that’s the best phrase to summarise my three-year experience at the JMSC. Immersed in an environment with an international cohort and faculty, offered the opportunity to participate in world-class exchange programmes, connected to a wide-range of local and international internships, I learned the essence of journalism with a greater exposure to the global world. I learned to scrutinise information with a critical mindset, find evidence and facts to verify a story and present it with interesting narrative and multimedia production skills. The knowledge I acquired at the JMSC prepared me not only for journalism, but also for academia and many other fields.”

James majored in journalism and politics and public administration, and worked part-time for CNN International and Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) during his studies. He also covered the anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan and the once-a-decade leadership changes during the National People’s Congress in Beijing, for CNN.com, Agence France-Presse and Hong Kong Economic Times.

James spent a semester at the Danish School of Media and Journalism, a JMSC exchange partner, in 2011. In his final year, James worked on a number of research projects, including Google’s Transparency Report and the JMSC’s Open Government Project. He presented his dissertation on Legislative Council (LegCo) data accessibility to the General-Secretary of LegCo, Kenneth Chen, in person.

Graduating with first-class honours, James won the Walter Kwok Scholarship and China Oxford Scholarship to fully fund his studies in the Master of Public Policy programme at the University of Oxford.

Gloria Cheung
BJ 2015

“The JMSC has opened the door to opportunities which I never dreamt about. It helped me make the right connections in the media industry through different internships and scholarships. I also was privileged to study with a diverse mix of international faculty members and students. My horizon and network has expanded greatly during my three years with the JMSC. I’ve gained brand new perspectives about my career and the world.”

Gloria double majored in Journalism and Politics and Public Administration, and during her studies interned for CNN International, Oscar-winning director Ruby Yang, and Time Out Hong Kong. She spent a semester abroad at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2013. She also co-founded “Live: Verified Updates”, a Facebook page that provided fact-checked news and information generated by a team of student reporters during Hong Kong’s 2014 Occupy Movement. The page gained more than 100,000 followers, and its eyewitness content was used by international news organisations such as the BBC and CNN in their coverage of the 79-day protest.
Thomas Abraham
Director, Public Health Media Project & Associate Professor of Practice

Thomas Abraham is a former editor of the South China Morning Post, Hong Kong’s largest English-language newspaper. Prior to joining the SCMP, he spent 13 years as a foreign correspondent based in Sri Lanka, the United Nations Office in Geneva, and in London for one of India’s leading newspapers, The Hindu. He has reported on conflicts in Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslavia, and Northern Ireland, as well as on major global issues such as world trade negotiations, human rights, arms control and disarmament.

King-Wa Fu
Associate Professor

King-Wa Fu’s research interests cover political participation and media use, computational media studies, mental health/suicide and the media, health communication, and internet use among the younger generation. He is a visiting Associate Professor at the MIT Media Lab and Fulbright-RGC Hong Kong Senior Research Scholar in 2016–2017. He has a PhD from the JMSC, a master’s degree in Social Sciences and a MPhil in Engineering from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He was a journalist at the Hong Kong Economic Journal before turning to academia.

Masato Kajimoto
Assistant Professor of Practice

Masato Kajimoto worked as an online reporter and ‘Specials’ editor (web producer) for CNN before beginning a career in teaching and research. Born in Nagoya, Japan, he earned his bachelor’s degree in English and American literature at Chuo University in Tokyo. He holds a master’s in journalism from the University of Missouri in the US and a PhD in Sociology from HKU. As a professional journalist, Masato has written news articles, features and columns in English and Japanese. As a journalism educator, he has supervised many multimedia projects integrating broadcast and internet technologies.

Kevin Sites
Associate Professor of Practice

Kevin Sites has spent the past decade reporting on global war and disaster for ABC, NBC, CNN, and Yahoo! News. In 2005, he became Yahoo!’s first correspondent and covered every major conflict in the world in a single year for his website, ‘Kevin Sites in the Hot Zone’. The project helped inspire the use of ‘backpack journalism’ as tool for immersive reporting. He is a recipient of the 2006 Daniel Pearl Award for Courage and Integrity in Journalism and was chosen as a Harvard University Nieman Journalism Fellow in 2010.
Anne Kruger
Assistant Professor of Practice
Anne Kruger was a daily Business News Presenter and World News fill-in Anchor at CNN International, and Anchor and Senior Reporter at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. During her time at CNN, Anne was assigned to cover SARS (2003) as a daily beat. At ABC TV Anne was Anchor and National Correspondent for the iconic documentary programme Landline. She was also a co-host of high profile programmes such as News Breakfast on ABC News 24 and a flagship news Anchor. She has a master’s degree in Journalism from Queensland University of Technology.

Sharron Fast
Lecturer
Sharron Fast joined the Journalism and Media Studies Centre in January 2016 from the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong where she was engaged in lecturing for the Faculty and conducting research at the Centre for Comparative and Public Law (CCPL). Her research there focused on criminal law and human rights issues. She is the former editor of the CCPL Rights Bulletin and the Annotated Ordinances of Hong Kong. She has previously taught Hong Kong Legal Systems in the Santa Clara University Summer Abroad Programme, as well as Criminal Law and The Rule of Law with the Faculty of Law at HKU. Prior to her work in Hong Kong, she was based in Seoul, South Korea, where she worked for a boutique intellectual property law firm consulting on patent and trademark matters.

A.J Libunao
Assistant Lecturer
A.J Libunao is an Assistant Lecturer and multimedia producer at the JMSC. His work has been published by such organisations as Asia Sentinel, Yahoo News, the South China Morning Post and Wiener Zeitung. He joined the JMSC in 2010 and teaches in the video news production, photography and online journalism classes. He holds a master’s degree in Multimedia and Entertainment Technology from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and a BA in Studio Art from the University of California, Irvine.

Marianne Bray
Marianne Bray has worked as a reporter in Hong Kong and New York for CNN.com, Reuters, Bloomberg, Bridge News and AFP, with her stories appearing in The International Herald Tribune, Financial Times and The New York Times, among others.

Pui-King Chan
Pui-King Chan is a veteran investigative journalist and former editor-in-chief of Next Magazine who wrote the definitive guide on access to public information in Hong Kong while serving as the JMSC’s first research fellow in 1999.

Matthew Leung
Matthew Leung was formerly the JMSC’s Creative Director, responsible for designing and publishing its educational and promotional materials, and has more than 20 years’ experience in editorial production, including design, graphics and desktop publishing.

Kees Metselaar
Kees Metselaar has been a photojournalist since the 1980s, covering war, famine and fun from Europe to the Middle East and on to Asia. He teaches photography at the JMSC and writes columns in two languages between photo assignments.

Nancy Tong
Nancy Tong has been producing documentaries for 30 years. Among her dozens of documentary projects are Who Killed Vincent Chin, which was nominated in 1989 for an Academy Award, and Cancer: From Evolution to Revolution, which won a George Foster Peabody Award in 2000.

Matt Walsh
Matt Walsh has been in broadcasting for 30 years, the past 15 in Hong Kong. He began his career on radio in the US, and moved into television at CNN in Atlanta in 1992. Since then, he has been an editor, writer and producer at several CNN networks.

Patrick Yu
Patrick Yu is a senior vice president and partner at FleishmanHillard Hong Kong and the head of financial and professional services in Asia Pacific for the firm. Patrick has a broad range of experience in strategic communications including reputation management, corporate marketing, and international communications programmes for financial institutions.

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A communications-focused double major degree for the digital age

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