



Bachelor of **Journalism**

2024 - 2025 | The University of Hong Kong

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.
- HKU Journalism 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.
- HKU offers exchange programmes with universities in the US, Europe and elsewhere.

About HKU Journalism

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.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
A) Language enhancement courses (18 credits)			
B) Common core courses (36 credits)			
BJ major (96 credits)	C) Introductory core courses in journalism (24 credits)		
	D) Journalism summer internship (12 credits)		
	E) Advanced core courses in journalism (18 credits)		
F) Elective courses in journalism (24 credits)			
		G) Capstone experience requirement (6 credits)	
H) Faculty Global Citizenship requirement (12 credits)			
I) Another major (72 credits)			
J) Free electives (0-18 credits)			

- 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 Communication
 - 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
 - Documentary Video Production
 - Generative AI for Media Applications
 - Persuasive Communications
 - Data Journalism
 - Special topics in communications I
 - Special topics in communications II
 - Principles of Strategic Communications
 - Strategic Communications Practicum
 - Digital Media Analytics

G) Capstone experience requirement (6 credits) – candidates are required to submit an academic paper or individual project in journalism by taking JMISC4001 ‘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 2024



Internships

The Journalism and Media Studies Centre 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 our 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: Agence France-Presse (Seoul/Tokyo), NBC (London), *Malaysiakini.com* (Kuala Lumpur), *Rappler* (Manila), *ABC Fact Check* (Melbourne), *Nepali Times* (Kathmandu), *Al Jazeera* (Kuala Lumpur), *Frontier Myanmar* and *Mizzima* (Yangon), *The News Lens* (Taipei).

Local English and international media: Cable News Network (CNN), Agence France-Presse (AFP), Bloomberg, Thomson Reuters, Associated Press (AP), *South China Morning Post*, *TIME*, *The Standard*, Hong Kong Cable Television Limited (HKIBC), *China Daily*, *Coconuts Hong Kong*, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), *Nikkei Asian Review*, *The Economist*, *Forbes Asia*, *Financial Times*, *Quartz*.

Local Chinese media: NOW TV, Hong Kong Cable Television Limited (iCable News Channel), Commercial Radio, *Ming Pao*, Phoenix TV, *Initium Media*, *Citizen News*, HK01.

Mainland China media: *Caixin* (Beijing), *Sixth Tone* (Shanghai), *China Daily* (Beijing), *Southern Weekend* (Guangzhou), *Shenzhen News* (Shenzhen)

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 Journalism and Media Studies Centre 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, Sciences Po in Paris, France and University of Navarra in Spain. 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 HKU journalism education prepares students for different careers by emphasising analytical and communication skills that are valued by employers in all fields.

Admissions

The Journalism and Media Studies Centre 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) 3917 5886
Website: www.hku.hk/admission

For further information, please contact:

Journalism and Media Studies Centre

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Website: jmsc.hku.hk/undergraduate

ALUMNI



Anne Chan BJ 2022

"My four-year journey at HKU Journalism equipped me with a profound understanding of news reporting skills and concepts through immersive, hands-on experiences.

Despite the pervasive shadow cast by the COVID-19 pandemic during my time there, I am grateful for the cherished memories and friendships I have formed. The professors and teachers were never hesitant to share their wealth of knowledge and experience, consistently offering guidance and support to steer me in the right direction.

The close-knit community comprising staff, alumni, and fellow students at the Journalism and Media Studies Centre provided a sense of proximity and accessibility, ensuring that there was always someone nearby to offer assistance and foster collaboration."

Anne double majored in Journalism and Economics. She interned at NBC News, and freelanced with various newsagents, such as Hong Kong Economic Journal, during her time at HKU. She is currently a reporter for RTHK. Prior to her role at RTHK, she was a reporter/anchor at ViuTV News.



Gabriel Fung BJ 2022

"The Bachelor of Journalism program at HKU Journalism is one of the most holistic well-rounded courses out there. It doesn't just train you the skills of a journalist, but to become an expert in your field of interest, made possible by the flexible double-major program.

I am now an MPhil International Relations candidate at the University of Oxford. There is substantial overlap between the skills of a journalist and researcher – data collection (e.g. interviewing), factchecking, statistical analysis – HKU journalism doesn't only prepare you for journalism, but a whole host of fields where these skills are valued. Even though I am not working at a news outlet, I still freelance in my own time. Journalism doesn't just end with your degree or your job, it's a continuous practice."

Gabriel graduated with first-class honors in 2022. He majored in Journalism and Politics and Public Administration, with a specialization in International Relations. He was the recipient of scholarships like the Sir Man Kam Lo/Jardine Scholarship and the K. K. Ho Prize during his time at HKU. He has freelanced for news outlets like The Diplomat and Hong Kong Free Press.

ALUMNI



Harvey Kong BJ 2021

"HKU Journalism has provided me with many opportunities during my time as a student, equipping me with the skills needed to capture the first rough draft of history.

During my time there, I was given the opportunity to work with the Associated Press and Agence France-Presse, which allowed me to cover the 2019 Hong Kong protests among other stories. Through this baptism by fire, I was given the chance to witness and record history as it unfolded, which would not have been possible without the education and opportunities provided by HKU Journalism.

The past few years have been an interesting time to study journalism in Hong Kong, as the city faced protests, pandemic, and political change within the short span of three years. Despite this, I am grateful to my HKU professors, staff and fellow students for equipping me with the necessary skills to forge a career in journalism in these uncertain times."

Harvey double majored in Politics and Public Administration. He is currently a graduate trainee reporter at *South China Morning Post*.

Photo credit: Isaac Wong



Vanesse Chan BJ 2021

"HKU journalism has prepared me for a career in international media. The four-year undergraduate program, which consists of traditional reporting and writing training, and new digital media courses, has given me the tools I need to be an all-rounded journalist in this rapidly changing new landscape where media is facing unprecedented challenges.

My favorite course is Online Journalism, in which students could manage an online news agency and rotate to different roles in the newsroom. By letting students get a touch on various aspects of news operations, this practical exercise helped us explore our interests.

The best part of the program lies in the well-connected internship opportunities which push us to put what we learn in the classroom into practice. In JMSC, we have a full-time career counselor who helps linking students with a diversity of media.

They have honed my journalistic skills and build up my instinct to find great stories of global importance. I would not have been able to accomplish that without the guidance of my inspiring professors!"

Vanesse's work has been seen in various international organizations during her undergraduate study, including *CNN*, *AFP*, *Le Media*, and *Coconuts*. She also contributed to an Emmy-winning production in 2020 for ITV's protest coverage "Hong Kong Year Of Living Dangerously".

FACULTY



Ruby Yang

Director & Professor of Practice

Academy Award-winning filmmaker Ruby Yang was born in Hong Kong and has spent the past 35 years of her career working in the USA, Beijing, and Hong Kong. Her exceptional work in both documentary and dramatic films has earned her the 2007 Oscar for Best Documentary Short Subject, Academy Award and Emmy nominations, as well as numerous international awards such as the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Journalism Award, FilmAid Asia's Humanitarian Award, and the Global Health Council Media Award.

She started at The University of Hong Kong in 2013 as the Hung Leung Hau Ling Distinguished Fellow in Humanities at HKU's Journalism and Media Studies Centre. During her tenure, she also led the Hong Kong Documentary Initiative, dedicating herself to nurturing the next generation of documentary filmmakers in the region. Her efforts as a filmmaker and teacher have inspired a new generation of journalism students and documentary filmmakers, elevating the art of storytelling and documentary filmmaking in Hong Kong and beyond.



AJ Libunao

Director, Bachelor of Journalism Programme Lecturer

With over a decade of experience in journalism education, AJ Libunao is currently the Director of Bachelor of Journalism at the University of Hong Kong. In addition to overseeing HKU's undergraduate journalism programme, AJ also teaches online journalism, video news production, photography and other courses to both undergraduates and postgraduates.

Born and raised in California, AJ has also worked in Japan for five years and his work has been published by organisations such as South China Morning Post, Yahoo! News, Asia Sentinel, Wiener Zeitung, and The Caravan. Previously, AJ also worked as a game developer, designing EEG technology-based video games.

He holds a Master of Multimedia and Entertainment Technology from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and a Bachelor of Studio Art from the University of California, Irvine.

FACULTY

King-Wa Fu 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 University of Hong Kong, 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 Associate 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 the University of Hong Kong. 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.

Ting Shi Senior Lecturer

Ting Shi is a freelance journalist and media consultant. Previously, she was a senior correspondent with *Bloomberg News*, mainly covering China's elite politics, political economy, and foreign relations. She also was China Editor at *South China Morning Post* for four years. Shi has an MA in Journalism from the University of California, Berkeley. intellectual property law firm consulting on patent and trademark matters.

Uli Gaulke Lecturer

Uli Gaulke is a Berlin-based author and documentary film director. He studied directing at the Konrad Wolf Film University of Babelsberg and won with his first documentary feature *Havanna Mi Amor* at the 2001 German Film Awards. His third film *Comrades In Dreams* was nominated for the World Cinema Jury Prize for Documentary at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival. In 2014, his film *As Time Goes By In Shanghai* won the Grand Jury Prize at the Al Jazeera International Documentary Film Festival. His latest feature *Sunset Over Hollywood* (2018) was nominated for the German Documentary Film Award and selected for the SXSW Festival.

Cezary Podkul Lecturer

Cezary Podkul has worked as an investigative and financial reporter for over a dozen years. Most recently, he was a senior reporter on *The Wall Street Journal's* financial investigations team in New York, where he specialized in data-driven news stories focusing on finance.

Prior to the Journal, Cezary wrote for *ProPublica* and *Reuters* and has also written for *USA Today* and *The Washington Post*, among other publications. He earned a B.S. in economics from the Wharton School at the *University of Pennsylvania* and worked briefly on *Wall Street* before entering journalism on the eve of the financial crisis in 2008. He is a past president of the New York Financial Writers' Association and has earned several distinctions for his work, including SABEW's Larry Birger Young Business Journalist Award.

Matt Walsh Director, Master of Journalism Programme Lecturer

Matt Walsh has been in broadcasting and journalism for more than 35 years and has been teaching at the University of Hong Kong's Journalism and Media Studies Centre since 2012. Matt began his career on radio in the United States, and moved into television at CNN in Atlanta in 1992, then CNN Hong Kong in 1999. In 20 years of work at a variety of CNN networks, he was an editor, writer, producer and trainer for CNN staff and affiliate stations. He has conducted training workshops for broadcasters and journalists in 20 Asian countries and territories, and dozens of media training sessions for corporate spokespeople. Matt is also a producer of programs for the Travel Channel, Discovery Channel, and CNN including Anthony Bourdain's *Parts Unknown*, *No Reservations* and *The Layover*. His voice over work can be heard on a wide variety of TV and radio commercials, documentaries, corporate videos and educational products.

General Enquiries

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Bachelor of **Journalism**

A communications-focused
double major degree for the digital age

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