Course Specification

Course Summary Information				
1	**Course Title**		BA (Hons) English and Journalism with Foundation Year	
2	**BCU Course Code**	**UCAS Code**	US0802F	Q30C
3	**Awarding Institution**		Birmingham City University	
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)		As Above	
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)		N/A	

6	**Course Description**
	The BA (Hons) English and Journalism course is ideal for anyone wishing to follow a career in the dynamic and competitive world of journalism. The course is housed in the School of English where you will be taught by world-leading academics and practitioners offering a diverse range of modules in literary studies, linguistics, creative writing and drama. Your degree will allow you to tailor your studies to your individual interests and career aspirations with both a local and global outlook. The course focuses on the development of core knowledge and skills for English study and work experience placements on live stories in media environments will teach you how to craft a story in a way that engages the audience. **About foundation courses** This diverse and creative course incorporating a Foundation Year is a must for anyone passionate about English, whether that be language, literature, drama or creative writing. As part of the foundation year you will develop essential skills and knowledge which will help you succeed in your future degree level studies and which will be transferable to your future career. You will study a variety of subjects, including language and literature, drama and creative writing, and will learn how these different aspects of English study interact with one another. Alongside this you will develop core skills in research, critical analysis, planning and evaluation, creativity and effective communication. Understanding how English is studied in context, developing that knowledge and applying it through a range of assignments and assessments, will provide you with a strong foundation upon which to progress to degree-level study at the School of English. **What's covered in the course?** The course brings together a study of English with knowledge of journalism practice and professional development. Combining the study of literature, language, drama and creative writing from the School of English with the development of skills to become a thinking media

	worker with the School of Media, you will benefit from subject knowledge and transferable skills from both disciplines. Through study of English you will develop an ability to work as an independent researcher, to communicate effectively in spoken and written discourse, to critically evaluate the work of others and respond imaginatively to original briefs. Understanding how language works in practice and how language and literature engage with societies are both vital aspects in understanding how the discipline connects with the wider world, enabling you to focus on the production, interpretation and negotiation of meaning. These skills are transferrable to the journalism component, where you will publish your stories, use blogs - including the student-run Birmingham Eastside website, runner-up in the Guardian Student Media Awards - learn to shoot and edit news videos, and employ social media channels and other interactive media to support your work and self-development. Work experience placements on live stories in media environments will teach you how to craft a story in a way that engages the audience. Teaching for the journalism component takes place in radio, TV and photography studios, editing suites and computer suites in our £62 million Parkside Building, part of our City Centre Campus, where you will build on your skills as you begin to make contacts in the industry and make your first moves into media work.

7	**Course Awards**		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours English and Journalism	6	480
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Foundation Certificate English and Journalism Certificate of Higher Education English and Journalism Diploma of Higher Education English and Journalism Bachelor of Arts English and Journalism	3 4 5 6	120 240 360 420

8	**Derogation from the University Regulations**
	Not applicable

9	**Delivery Patterns**		
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full Time	City Centre	4 years	US0802F

10	**Entry Requirements**
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.

11	**Course Learning Outcomes**
	Knowledge & Understanding
1	Specify the cultural, economic, political and regulatory contexts of the creative industries.
2	Recognise the formal features of literatures in English and/or regional and global varieties of English from different periods.
3	Explain how culture, language, technology and economics affect the production and reception of texts.
4	Explore your own creative processes and practice through engagement in more than one production practice.
	Cognitive & Intellectual Skills
5	Develop as a self-motivated and resourceful independent learner, capable of developing a personal course of study.
6	Apply critical, theoretical, methodological and stylistic concepts and terminology in relation to media, literature, linguistics and creative practice.
7	Critically reflect and evaluate your own work in a reflexive manner, with reference to academic and/or professional issues, debates and conventions.
8	Articulate a critical understanding of complex texts and ideas.
	Practical & Professional Skills
9	Respond to professional contexts, developing as a thinking creative worker, aware of the commissioning and funding structures and of how to operate within a cultural industries workplace.
10	Communicate ideas clearly, accurately, creatively and effectively orally, in writing and in practice.
11	Initiate, manage and complete research projects independently and/or collaboratively utilising appropriate research skills.
12	Produce work which demonstrates an understanding of media forms, structures, audiences and specific communication registers in addition to relevant practical and technical skills.
	Key Transferable Skills
13	Work productively and creatively in a group or team, as well as individually, showing abilities at different times to listen, contribute and lead, as well as act effectively by oneself.
14	Recognise, synthesise, test and evaluate complex information and diverse evidence.
15	Produce cogent arguments and make reasoned judgements.
16	Develop the skills required to deliver work to a given length, format, brief and deadline making appropriate use of a problem-solving and entrepreneurial approach.

12	**Course Requirements**

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Level 3:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
EGL3000	Language and Creativity	20
EGL3001	Language and Texts	20
EGL3002	Literature in the World	20
EGL3003	Literature in Time	20
EGL3004	Researching English	20
EGL3005	Writing Development	20

Level 4:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 100 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
EGL4046	Foundations of Language	20
EGL4047	Key Critical Concepts	20
MED4162	Journalism Law and Ethics	20
MED4158	Live Newsroom 1	40

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
EGL4048	Language in Action	20
EGL4042	Craft of Writing	20
EGL4051	Modern Drama	20
EGL4049	Literature and Conflict	20

Level 5:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
EGL5064	Key Critical Traditions	20
MED5XXX	Disruptive Publishing	20
MED5XXX	Live Newsroom 2	40

Plus at least 40 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
EGL5062	Gender, Sexuality and Culture	20
EGL5066	Literature and the Child	20
EGL5067	Multicultural Writing	20
EGL5060	Early Modern Literature	20
EGL5061	Foundations of Screenwriting	20
EGL5070	Writing Audio Drama	20
EGL5059	Documentary Drama	20
EGL5065	Language in Society	20

OR to pursue the Journalism route, a student could choose to successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following list of OPTIONAL modules:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
MED5159	Bi-Media Drama	20
MED5196	Television Studio	20
MED5173	Lifestyle and Branded Media Content	20
MED5161	Campaigning and Investigative Journalism	20
MED5179	Music, Media and Digitalisation	20
MED5167	Digital Content Distribution	20
MED5157	Advanced Visual Communication	20
MED5178	Music Industry Promotional Practices	20
MED5165	Commercial Production for Radio	20
MED5185	Radio Documentary	20
MED5169	Fashion Photography	20
MED5181	Photojournalism	20
MED5182	PR Planning and Delivery	20

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
MED6XXX	Live Newsroom 3	20
MED6XXX	Global and Community Impacts 3	20
ADM6005	Major Project	40

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
EGL6126	Forensic Linguistics	20
EGL6XXX	Moral Philosophy	20
EGL6132	Psychology in Victorian Literature	20

	EGL6133	Speculative Fiction	20	
	EGL6143	Teaching English as a Foreign Language	20	
	EGL6138	The Gothic	20	
	EGL6136	Writing Creative Nonfiction	20	

12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only as modules will only run if selected by 15 or more students. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

<table>
<tr><td><u>Award</u></td><td colspan="5"><u>BA (Hons) English and Journalism</u></td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 3</td><td colspan="3">Semester 1</td><td colspan="2">Semester 2</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Subject Module
(20 credits)
Live Newsroom 3</td><td>Option Module
(20 credits)

English option</td><td>Option Module
(20 credits)

English option</td><td>Faculty Module
Major Project (one of)
(40 credits)
Advanced Poetry
Dissertation
Drama Workshop
Undergraduate Conference
Media Portfolio</td><td>Subject Module
(20 credits)

Global and Community Impact 3</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 2</td><td colspan="2">Semester 1</td><td colspan="3">Semester 2</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Programme Module
(20 credits)

Key Critical Traditions</td><td>Subject Module
(20 credits)

Disruptive Publishing</td><td>Option Module
(20 credits)

English option</td><td colspan="2">Option Module
(20 credits)

English option</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="5">Live Newsroom 2 (40 credits)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Year 1</td><td colspan="2">Semester 1</td><td colspan="3">Semester 2</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Subject Module
(20 credits)
Foundations of Language</td><td>Subject Module
(20 credits)
Journalism Law & Ethics</td><td>Programme Module
(20 credits)
Key Critical Concepts</td><td colspan="2">Option Module (one of)
(20 credits)
Craft of Writing
Language in Action
Literature and Conflict
Modern Drama</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td colspan="5">Live Newsroom 1 (40 credits)</td></tr>
</table>

FY	Semester 1			Semester 2		
	Programme Module (20 credits) Literature in Time	**Programme Module** (20 credits) Language & Texts	**Programme Module** (20 credits) Researching in English	**Programme Module** (20 credits) Literature in Time	**Programme Module** (20 credits) Language & Creativity	**Programme Module** (20 credits) Writing Development

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 3

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	480
Directed Learning	480
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	

Level 4

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	231
Directed Learning	729
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	

Level 5

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	219
Directed Learning	741
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	

Level 6

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	187
Directed Learning	689
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	