Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	**Course Title**	BA (Hons) English and Journalism	
2	**BCU Course Code**	**UCAS Code**	US0802	Q30J
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.

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	360
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education English and Journalism	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education English and Journalism	5	240
	Bachelor of Arts English and Journalism	6	300

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	3 years	US0802
Professional Placement Year	City Centre	4 years	US1328

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.

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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**	

12a	**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
EGL5073	Writing and the Environment	20
MED5209	Disruptive Publishing	20
MED5211	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
MED6206	Live Newsroom 3	20
MED6205	Global and Community Impacts 3	20
EGL6150 EGL6151 EGL6152 EGL6153 EGL6154	Major Project: English – Advanced Poetry Major Project: English Dissertation Major Project: Drama Workshop Major Project: English – Conference Major Project: English and Journalism – Media Portfolio	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
EGL6148	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
EGL6149	Corpus Linguistics	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.

Award	BA (Hons) English and Journalism				
Year 3	Semester 1			Semester 2	
	Subject Module (20 credits) Live Newsroom 3	**Option Module** (20 credits) English option	**Subject Module** (20 credits) Global and Community Impact 3	**Faculty Module Major Project (one of)** (40 credits) English - Advanced Poetry English Dissertation Drama Workshop English - Conference Media Portfolio	**Option Module** (20 credits) English option
Year 2	Semester 1			Semester 2	
	Programme Module (20 credits) Writing and the Environment	**Subject Module** (20 credits) Disruptive Publishing		**Option Module** (20 credits) English option	**Option Module** (20 credits) English option
	Live Newsroom 2 (40 credits)				
Year 1	Semester 1			Semester 2	
	Subject Module (20 credits) Foundations of Language	**Subject Module** (20 credits) Journalism Law & Ethics		**Programme Module** (20 credits) Key Critical Concepts	**Option Module (one of)** (20 credits) Craft of Writing Language in Action Literature and Conflict Modern Drama
	Live Newsroom 1 (40 credits)				

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and ass*e*ssment 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 4

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	238
Directed Learning	650
Private Study	312
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	244
Directed Learning	620
Private Study	336
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	

Level 6

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Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	198
Directed Learning	630
Private Study	372
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	