



Sport Journalism BA (Hons)

Whether you're passionate about covering Premier League football, the Olympics, Formula One or netball, this course equips you with the skills to build a career in one of the most competitive areas of the media.

Full-time and Part-time

P505 BA/SJ

Media & Journalism

Full-time

Entry to 2023/24 academic year

Fee for UK applicants

£9,250 a year

[More details about our fees](#)

Fee for international applicants

£15,000 a year

[More details about our fees for international applicants](#)

What is included in your tuition fee?

- Length: 3 years (or 4 with a work placement)
- UCAS code: P505 BA/SJ
- Start date: September or January
- [Semester dates](#)
- Typical offer: 96-112 tariff points

[Apply online \(full-time\) through UCAS](#)

Part-time

2023/24 entry

Fee for UK applicants

£4,500 (120 credits)

[More details about our fees](#)

- Length: Up to 6 years
- Attendance: Daytime
- Start date: September
- [Semester dates](#)

[Apply online \(part-time\)](#)

Get in touch

UK students

Email: saci-admissions@tees.ac.uk

Telephone: 01642 738801

[Online chat](#)

International students

Email: internationalenquiries@tees.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0) 1642 738900

[More international contacts](#)

Professional accreditation

This degree is accredited by the National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ). This means that you study for your professional (pre-entry) qualifications alongside your degree, with no additional tuition charges.



The NCTJ diploma is a vocational qualification that is widely recognised and highly valued by journalism employers.

Research by the NCTJ in 2015 found that 96% of those who pass its diploma at the 'gold standard' level were in work 6-10 months after completion, the overwhelming majority in a journalism-related job.

Candidates are expected to enter all the NCTJ's mandatory exams in reporting, essential public affairs, essential media law and shorthand, and to complete the multimedia portfolio.

Course overview

Delivered by professional journalists with top-level experience in TV, radio, print and online, you learn how to file a match report and interview leading athletes, as well as analyse the social, political and economic aspects of the global sport industry. You develop high level skills working with words, pictures and audio across all platforms, including social media, and gain critical skills to tackle hot questions such as doping, corruption and equality in sport.

You learn by doing, building an impressive portfolio of published work, and have the opportunity to report on live football at Middlesbrough Football Club.

TUXtra, is our new integrated media publishing platform for media and journalism students and gives you practical experience in publishing and broadcasting innovative content on-air and online. By creating content for TUXtra you build up a valuable and useful portfolio of published work. Find out more at tuxtra.co.uk

We are ranked 7th out of 81 institutions for Media & Film Studies in the Guardian University Guide 2023 (121 institutions participated) and are in the top 50 in the UK for our Communication & Media Studies courses in the Complete University Guide 2023. (tees.ac.uk/source)

[Download pdf](#) [Order prospectus](#)

Course details

Year 1 gives you all the tools to start producing quality journalism that is ethically and legally sound. You work on TUXtra to develop skills in producing written, audio, video and social media content.

In Year 2 you develop a deeper and more sophisticated understanding of the work of a sports journalist, and explore your own interests through a series of multimedia news days.

In the final year you take a leading editorial role in content creation for TUXtra while enhancing your existing sports skillset to build your own journalism digital brand. You develop your entrepreneurial abilities to explore ways of monetising your ideas, focusing on the content you love to create.

Course structure

Year 1 core modules

Boot Camp Technical Post-Production

You develop general digital production skills with an additional focus on post-production. You enhance effective practical, technical and aesthetical approaches required to create a variety of digital media artefacts across a number of platforms, with more relevance to the subject-specific disciplines. You have the opportunity to gain Adobe Accredited user status.

Boot Camp Technical Production

You are introduced to effective practical, technical and aesthetical approaches required to create a variety of digital media artefacts across a variety of digital delivery platforms. You learn a variety of sector specific and industry standard digital delivery methods and production techniques surrounding the acquisition, manipulation and operation of media production hardware and software applications. In addition to the supervised contact time, you also have access to freelance resources. You are assessed on two pass/fail components. Your first assessment is a series of practical exams that determine your proficiency across a range of digital media production disciplines. Your second assessment is a digital portfolio of work developed during the module.

Branding and Identity

This module looks at the ideas, concepts, and practicalities of developing a professional online presence. It takes a critical look at social media and considers how best to make use of existing online communities and tools. You design and create something that represents you in an online presence, using a range of available technologies and third-party applications (web authoring, blogging systems, social media, file sharing and networking systems), to act as a PR tool in promoting your career or specific media-related activities to a

specified audience.

Law and Regulation for Journalists

This module gives you the legal and ethical training required to practice as an effective, professional journalist. You learn about the judicial process and areas such as contempt, defamation, sexual offences, youth courts, inquests, copyright, privacy and ethics. You will also work towards your NCTJ Essential Law and Court Reporting exams.

Reporting and Newsgathering

You are introduced to the core journalistic skills of news reporting and news gathering in the digital landscape. You focus on different styles of writing, interviewing and research and industry level production skills with some exploration of usability and design for news audiences.

You explore news values, agenda-setting and the availability and usability of digital tools and techniques such as social media and imagery. You explore ways to cultivate and develop contacts, effectively utilising sources in the gathering, communication and dissemination of news in developing your own journalistic practice.

Sport Culture and Society

You develop understanding of sport in its wider historical, social and cultural context. You explore key debates in sport journalism by providing a theoretically and critically informed understanding of the sport industry. You critically engage with existing and emerging issues in sports on a global, national and local level such as representation, social stratification and division in sport, and social fandom.

You gain a critical understanding of the social responsibilities and expectations of a sport journalist. This prepares you to be able to report on a wide range of sport related issues, which often spill over to the news pages.

Your assessment is 100 % ICA, group presentation and essay.

Year 2 core modules

Live News Production

You experience a simulated live news environment to gain discipline and working practices associated with the industry. A key focus is on working to tight deadlines, using a model of repetition and reflection. Newsroom sessions are student led and you can develop independent learning and leadership skills. Reflection is used in debrief sessions so you can analyse and assess your own performance and professional practice. You build on skills and knowledge from your degree and produce a range of multimedia content for a specific audience.

Match Day Reporting

You gain practical skills needed to become multi-media sports journalists.

You focus on how to deal with the demands placed on a journalist when covering live sport events. You learn how to produce accurate, informative and entertaining sports reports to tight deadlines, produce compelling content, attention grabbing headlines and identifying the best angle.

You are expected to attend live sport events to put your learning into practice.

Your assessment is 100% ICA: match report and reaction piece.

Media Project

You work on industry-based projects that form part of your developing professional portfolio of work. You respond to time-based and/or live briefs in your allocated role within a professional network or team. You experience working within a professional network, reflecting your specialist area of media industry practice. For assessment, you submit a final product and a supporting research portfolio.

Power of Sport

Sport is more than just a game. It is big news and big business. Sport journalism is one of the fastest growing sectors of the British media industry. This module digs beneath the surface of match reporting and explores the theoretical debates surrounding sport, the media and society.

Radio and Podcast

You research, pitch, write and produce reports for broadcast radio and a podcast using the TUXtra media platform. You learn more advanced presentation skills and receive practical development work to attune your voice so its suitable for radio and podcasting. You learn how to operate radio equipment and familiarise yourself with industry standard technology such as web newsroom software and digital online production delivery techniques. The stories you investigate involves analysing news and current affairs programmes, making editorial decisions and the practical, ethical and legal implications of broadcasting with regards to privacy, consent and copyright law.

Optional work placement year

Work placement

You have the option to spend one year in industry learning and developing your skills. We encourage and support you with applying for a placement, job hunting and networking.

You gain experience favoured by graduate recruiters and develop your technical skillset. You also obtain the transferable skills required in any professional environment, including communication, negotiation, teamwork, leadership, organisation, confidence, self-reliance,

problem-solving, being able to work under pressure, and commercial awareness.

Many employers view a placement as a year-long interview, therefore placements are increasingly becoming an essential part of an organisation's pre-selection strategy in their graduate recruitment process. Benefits include:

- improved job prospects
- enhanced employment skills and improved career progression opportunities
- a higher starting salary than your full-time counterparts
- a better degree classification
- a richer CV
- a year's salary before completing your degree
- experience of workplace culture
- the opportunity to design and base your final-year project within a working environment.

If you are unable to secure a work placement with an employer, then you simply continue on a course without the work placement.

Final-year core modules

Advanced Professional Practice

Teesside University takes employability seriously and this module enables you to broach the gap between university and the workplace by preparing you for interview and job selection processes. As a third-year student you take on the role of editor for the print publication, TV news programme, and Tside radio show.

Critical Issues in Journalism

You explore the workings of a modern democracy, particularly how the structures and systems of local and central government and other public institutions impact on the practice of professional journalists. You develop your knowledge of council agendas, government sources and data and take part in a visit to a local council meeting.

Your assessment is 100% ICA: 50% journalism artefact and 50% exam.

Enterprise and Innovation

You consider, engage and analyse a range of key issues around enterprise and innovation when developing a professional digital publishing plan and pitch.

You research audiences, investigate and explore existing and emerging technologies and platforms, marketplaces, human factors, digital conventions and aesthetics. You develop your commercial awareness and business acumen; understanding existing and new digital business models, its challenges and opportunities. You develop an idea and plan for a new concept or an innovation based on an existing business.

You produce a detailed digital business plan, which presents and argues the case from a technical, audience, journalistic, content and commercial perspective.

Journalism Project

This is a self-managed project of professional practice and reflective consideration. You work individually to produce creative work as a finished multimedia web site demonstrating skills in the newsgathering, production of multimedia sports journalism including audio, video, layout, typography, web design and associated technologies. You also produce a critical essay, examining a key issue of professional practice raised in the creative process.

Your assessment is 100% ICA: website, individual project and essay.

Modules offered may vary.

How you learn

A full range of the latest digital resources, software and digital recording equipment supports the newsroom environment. Independent and student-centred learning are encouraged in addition to taught sessions with staff.

The ideas that underpin modern journalism are examined through a series of issues and debates considered in a series of illustrated lectures and seminars where there is opportunity for lively discussion.

The core learning, teaching and assessment tool for practical journalism is the [TUXtra website](#) which enables you to produce real content for a publicly facing platform. You also create your own digital platforms supported by the University enabling you to develop open source web development skills.

Work created as part of assessment builds a professional portfolio of content, which you are able to take out into industry and show perspective employers.

Our Disability Services team provide an inclusive and empowering learning environment and have specialist staff to support disabled students access any additional tailored resources needed. If you have a specific learning difficulty, mental health condition, autism, sensory impairment, chronic health condition or any other disability please contact a Disability Services as early as possible.

[Find out more about our disability services](#)

[Find out more about financial support](#)

[Find out more about our course related costs](#)

Entry requirements

Entry requirements

Year 1 entry

96-112 points from any combination of recognised Level 3 qualifications. Consideration is also given to students without formal qualifications but with evidence of practical journalism experience at an appropriate level. Applicants may be invited to share a portfolio where applicable to show skills in journalism.

Applicants are invited join us on campus for an applicant day, enabling you to see our sport journalism facilities, meet staff and students and learn more about studying at Teesside University.

English language and maths requirement

Normally GCSE English language at grade C, or 4 under the new grading system. Alternative equivalent qualifications may be considered.

Non-EU international students who need a student visa to study in the UK should check our web pages on UKVI-compliant English language requirements. The University also provides pre-sessional English language courses to help you meet the English language requirements.

Helping you meet the entry requirements

We may be able to help you meet the requirements for admission by offering you the opportunity to study one or more Summer University modules, some of which can be studied by distance learning.

Alternative degree with integrated foundation year

If you are unable to achieve the minimum admission requirements for Year 1 entry you could, subject to eligibility, join one of our degree courses with an integrated foundation year.

Direct entry to later years

If you have previously studied at higher education level (for example, a foundation degree, HNC, HND or one or more years at degree level at another institution) you may request direct entry to Year 2 or year 3 of this degree.

Mature applicants

We welcome applications from mature students (aged over 21) who can demonstrate, through portfolio/written work and relevant experience, that they have developed cognitive and technical skills through their life experiences.

For general information please see our overview of entry requirements

International applicants can find out what qualifications they need by visiting [Your Country](#)

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You can gain considerable knowledge from work, volunteering and life. Under recognition of prior learning (RPL) you may be awarded credit for this which can be credited towards the course you want to study.

[Find out more about RPL](#)

Employability

Career opportunities

Graduates have progressed to cover sport for Sky Sports and BBC Tees. Work experience is integral to this programme. We have long-established contacts across regional and national media, including The Gazette, Sky Sports News and i newspaper, as well as with partner sports organisations including Middlesbrough Football Club and Tees Valley Sport.

Information for international applicants

Qualifications

International applicants - find out what qualifications you need by selecting your country below.

Select your country:

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Useful information

Visit our [international pages](#) for useful information for non-UK students and applicants.

Talk to us

[Talk to an international student enrolment adviser](#)