Programme Specification ARO 034a

Section 1 Key Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Awarding Body</strong></th>
<th>University of Stirling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partner Institution</strong></td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Programme Name</strong></td>
<td>International Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award</strong></td>
<td>e.g. BSc (Hons), MA etc. MSc</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Faculty</strong></td>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Division</strong> (if applicable)</td>
<td>Communications, Media and Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UCAS Code</strong> (UG only)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Programme Code</strong></td>
<td>TDX44-INJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mode of Study</strong></td>
<td>Full Time ☒ Part Time ☒</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(if both please provide two Degree Programme Tables in the Outline Programme Structure)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location/Method of Study</strong></td>
<td>On Campus – UK ☒ International ☐ Where: Online ☐ Blended ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Admission Points</strong></td>
<td>September ☒ January ☐ Other</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(if more than one entry point please provide a Degree Programme Table for each in the Outline Programme Structure)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Length of Programme</strong></td>
<td>Full-time: 12 months. Part-time: 24 months</td>
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| **SCQF Level**          | 11                                          |
| **Total Credit Value**  | 180                                         |
| **ECTS Credit Value**   | 90                                          |

**Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark**

**Professional Body Accreditation** *(all relevant accreditations to be listed)*

Name of accrediting body: N/A

**Programme Director**

Dr Idrees Ahmed

**Advisor of Studies**

Derek Hodge

**Programme Approved**

December 2017

**Last Updated**

2018

Section 2 Overview
PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The proposed MSc in International Journalism introduces students from diverse academic and professional backgrounds to theoretical debates around journalism and helps develop advanced practical skills. The focus will be international and the course will address journalism practice across different media, cultural and regulatory contexts.

The programme will prepare students for careers in journalism, documentary production and photography, public relations, political communication, and publishing. It will also give them transferable skills for a range of other careers in the fields of entertainment, environment, human rights, and migration.

Key Features of the Programme

- It focuses on the theory and practice of journalism in a global context, across different media, cultural and regulatory environments.
- It allows students to tailor their studies by choosing a practice- or theory-led pathways depending on their interests and career ambitions.
- It provides advanced training in production and develop sound analytical skills.
- Students get to engage with debates on a wide range of public issues from the economy, politics, conflicts, the arts and the environment.
- Students will have one-to-one supervision from staff who are either practicing journalists or engaged in ongoing research at the forefront of their disciplines.

PROGRAMME AIMS

Overarching Programme Aims

On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:

1. Research and produce high quality journalism across multiple platforms, including print, online, audio and video.
2. Critically analyze current international issues and public affairs.
3. Demonstrate advanced skills in writing, storytelling and presenting.
4. Operate professionally in different cultural, legal and political contexts.
5. Navigate complex ethical issues in journalism and make sound professional judgements.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding:

1. effectively communicate current issues in international journalism, drawing on relevant theories of globalisation and international relations.
2. demonstrate an advanced understanding of transnational practices in the cultural, social, economic and political realms.
3. evidence and articulate advanced appreciation of the cultural, social and political significance of journalism.

Subject-specific skills and other attributes:

1. apply advanced skills in audio/video production, digital publishing and news and feature writing. They will be able to publish news across multiple media.
2. critically understand the different legal, cultural, and political contexts in which they might have to operate.
3. master style and understand and its relationship to content.

Generic skills (e.g. information skills, communication skills, critical, analytical and problem solving
abilities) and other attributes:
1. demonstrate advanced research and analysis skills.
2. demonstrate advanced writing and communication skills.
3. work proficiently using a variety of multi-media production tools.
4. critically engage with contemporary issues and develop the cognitive tools necessary to solve or preempt problems.

Intellectual, Practical and Transferable Skills and other graduate attributes:
1. Sophisticated research and analysis skills
2. Advanced writing and communication skills
3. Multi-media proficiency

Values and Attitudes:
1. Civic and social responsibility
2. Ethical commitment to truth-telling
3. Individual initiative and team work

HOW WILL I LEARN?
You will learn through a combination of lectures, seminars and practical workshops. You will also be encouraged to conduct independent research. Besides essays, multi-media content and in-class tests, the course will use a dissertation or a journalism project to assess learning outcomes. There will also be ongoing formative feedback to support students in the form of weekly discussions and problem-solving exercises.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?
Assessment and Assessment Criteria
The programme will be assessed mainly through essays and multimedia projects. In the final semester you will choose either an academic dissertation or a journalism project.

Feedback on Assessment
You will receive feedback on coursework within 3 weeks of completion of the assessment. Feedback is usually provided electronically on formal coursework. Feedback and Guidance sessions with teaching staff are available on all modules. These provide regular opportunities to discuss feedback further. More information about feedback on assessment can be found here; http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/

Assessment Regulations
If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at the University of Stirling, please see the full version of the assessment regulations at: Postgraduate – Taught

WHAT WILL I STUDY?
Outline Programme Structure
The list below shows compulsory and option modules for this programme. Option modules are revised over time and, in some cases, will be dependent upon pre-requisite and/or co-requisites being taken. More information about these requirements can be found in the relevant Module Descriptors. The options available each year can be subject to change due to student demand and availability of teaching staff.

- Where an “Option list” is specified, you have a choice of which module to take at this point in the degree programme and these choices are listed below.

**Postgraduate**

**Full-time**

Total year 1 credit value = 180  
Compulsory credits = 40  
Option credits = 140

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Module 2</th>
<th>Module 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>JOUPP01 - Journalism Practice 1 (20 credits)</td>
<td>JOUPP02 - International Journalism (20 credits)</td>
<td>20 credits from: MMAPP12: Mass Media Research Methods [compulsory if dissertation track] (20 credits) PCMPPX2: Public Affairs and Advocacy (20 credits) MMAPP10: Global Creative Industries (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>JOUPP04 - Journalism Practice 2 (20 credits)</td>
<td>40 credits from: JOUPP03 - Investigative Research [compulsory if Investigative Research project track] (20 credits) PREPP94: Communication and Democracy: power, politics and mobilisation (20 credits); PREPP23: Strategic Communications Research Placement (20 credits) cont’d in summer MMAPP14: Media Regulation and Policy (20 credits) CMCPP12: Advanced Social Media Marketing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>MMAPPDS - Dissertation or JOUPPDP - Journalism Project (60)</td>
<td>PREPP23: Strategic Communications Research Placement (20 credits) cont’d from spring</td>
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**Part-time**

**Year 1**

Total year 1 credit value = 80  
Compulsory credits = 40  
Option credits = 40

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Module 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>JOUPP01 - Journalism Practice (20 credits)</td>
<td>0 - 20 credits from: PCMPPX2: Public Affairs and Advocacy (20 credits) MMAPP10: Global Creative Industries (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>JOUPP04 - Journalism Practice 2 (20 credits)</td>
<td>20 credits from: PREPP94: Communication and Democracy: power, politics and mobilisation (20 credits)</td>
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### Part-time Year 2

Total year 1 credit value = 100  
Compulsory credits = 60  
Option credits = 40

| Autumn          | JOUPP02 - International Journalism (20 credits) | 0-20 credits from:  
|                 |                                              | MMAPP12: Research Methods [if dissertation track] (20 credits)  
|                 |                                              | PCMPPX2: Public Affairs and Advocacy (20 credits)  
|                 |                                              | MMAPP10: Global Creative Industries (20 credits)  
| Spring          | 20 credits from:  
|                 | JOUPP03 - Investigative Research [if Investigative Research project track] (20 credits);  
|                 | PREPP94: Communication and Democracy: power, politics and mobilisation (20 credits);  
|                 | PREPP23: Strategic Communications Research Placement (20 credits); cont’d in summer  
|                 | MMAPP14: Media Regulation and Policy (20 credits);  
|                 | CMCPP12: Advanced Social Media Marketing (20 credits)  
| Summer/Autumn   | MMAPPDS - Dissertation or  
|                 | JOUPPPP - Investigative Research Project (60) | PREPP23: Strategic Communications Research Placement (20 credits) cont’d from Spring

* At the start of the course students will be offered the option of a Dissertation track or a Journalism Project track. For the former, the MMAPP12: Media Research Methods module in Autumn will be compulsory; for the latter JOUPP03: Investigative Research Methods module in Spring.

### READING LIST

**Required and Recommended Reading for the Programme**

- Pomerantsev, P (2014). *Nothing is True and Everything is Possible*.

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Section 3 Student Support

**SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING**

**Induction**
You will receive an induction during the first days of your programme. This includes guidance on the pathways and options available during your programme of study. There will be a range of social events, information sessions and activities to help you orientate yourself at Stirling and access the services available to you. These are opportunities to meet staff and other students from across the university, in the Faculty and on the programme.

**Study Skills Support**
Student Learning Services (SLS) are committed to providing comprehensive guidance on all aspects of effective and efficient learning. The ultimate aim of the service is to enable you to make the most of your academic studies at the University and for you to become an independent, successful learner during your time at the University of Stirling. This is facilitated through collaborative work with experienced tutors and by offering a variety of courses, workshops and tutorials.

All students, whatever stage of their academic studies, are welcome to use Student Learning Services. However the service may be particularly beneficial:

- In your first two years of study.
- If you are making the transition from college to Higher Education.
- If you have been out of education for some time.

**What SLS are able to do:**

- Advise you on academic skills relevant to your studies at University.
- Help you consolidate your previous learning and develop new learning strategies.
- Advise on action-plans to potentially improve grades.
- Suggest practical solutions if you feel overwhelmed by assignment work.
- Help you gain confidence in the transition to Higher Education.

More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/)

**STEER**
STEER is a University-wide peer support scheme linking in returning student "Captains" with new undergraduate or taught post-graduate "Crew" during their first year at Stirling.

The scheme aims to help you make the most of your time at the University, help new students - the Crew - settle in and realise the opportunities available to them. You can find out more information here: [https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/](https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/)

**Stirling Graduate School**
For Research Postgraduate Students the Stirling Graduate School as well as your own faculty will provide support. More information can be found here: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/)

**Academic and Pastoral Support**

**Adviser of Studies:** Advisers have an important role to play in enhancing your academic and personal development and are essential to ensuring you make the most of your time at university.
provide a personalised point of contact for you to discuss academic concerns or queries within the academic community. The general purpose of the role is to provide more in-depth advice on the academic options available to you and on the academic policies and regulations within the University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/

**Personal Tutor:** The role of a personal tutor is to help you feel part of the University community. They are a specific and consistent source of guidance, information and support for you throughout your studies. The tutor should be the your first formal point of contact for general academic guidance and pastoral support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/

**Support and Wellbeing:** At university you may face non-academic issues where you need some expert help or guidance. There are lots of ways we can help you in your day-to-day life at University. Student Support Services provide a range of high-quality services to assist you during the course of your studies, help prepare you for life after graduation. We aim to enhance the student experience and help you to get the most out of your time at University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/

**Student Union:** you can also access support through the Students’ Union, more information can be found here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/

**Accessibility and Inclusion (A&I)**
A&I are committed to offering a service which is welcoming and supportive of the needs of all students. Our service takes into account the full range of needs you may have, in a wide variety of circumstances including - physical and mobility difficulties, sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorder as well as medical conditions and mental health difficulties. A&I can also support you if you have short-term, temporary impairments or other difficulties as a result of an accident, injury, illness or surgery. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/accessibility-&-inclusion-service/

**Learning Resources**
You can find out more about the resources available to support your learning here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/

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### Section 4 Programme Evaluation and Enhancement

**METHODS FOR EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING**

**Module Evaluation**
Module evaluations are carried out each year and are an important way of getting student feedback on the modules we teach. We aim to evaluate every module we teach in every semester. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/studentinformation/moduleevaluation/

**Programme Review**
Programmes are reviewed annually and on a 5 yearly cycle. You can get involved in a variety of different ways; by completing module evaluations, becoming a course representative and attending Student Staff Consultative Committees, or participating in the review process itself. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/review-and-monitoring/

**External Examiner(s)**
Name of External Examiner: Professor Scott Lucas.
Institution: University of Birmingham
**Section 5 My Future**

**WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?**

*What career avenues does this qualification open up to the student?*

The programme will prepare you for careers in journalism, documentary photography and film-making, public relations, political communication, and publishing and will also give you transferable skills for a range of careers in other fields, including advertising, political analysis and humanitarian work.

How does this programme facilitate your development of the Graduate Attributes?

**Graduate Attributes**

Through studying your degree programme you will become a subject specialist, with in-depth knowledge, understanding and skills associated with their discipline(s). Our ambition is that you will also be confident, aspirational graduates with the right skills and attitudes to **connect; innovate and transform**. On this module you will have the opportunity to become:

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<tr>
<th>(Add ‘X’ to those that are relevant):</th>
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**Connected**

- With their discipline(s) knowledge, understanding and skills with a range of complex real world issues
- with contributions from alumni, private, public and third sector to develop their employability skills  
- with knowledge, experiences, and people providing different perspectives, to understand different cultures, beliefs and traditions
- and work with one another as an inclusive learning community and with the wider community
- and communicate effectively through digital and other media

**Innovative**

- through active and ethical research
- through using the latest global research and new technologies to develop new understandings and creative solutions
- through independent critical and reflective thinking
- through identifying opportunities to improve what they do and taking action

**Transformative**

- through their intellectual sporting and cultural passion and excellence
- through sharing new perspectives and broadening horizons
- through being professional, adaptable and resilient and equipped to succeed in the global market place
- through being active global citizens who are socially, culturally, and environmentally aware.
WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

N/A

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

An optional placement module is available in the Spring semester. This module has been designed to appeal to those students with an interest in applied communications research. In the module students will gain experience of applying key concepts and theories used in academic literature on strategic communications and public affairs to complex and real organisational and policy environments. It offers students the opportunity to apply research skills to practical strategic communications problems or contemporary public affairs. The content is aimed at providing students with applied research experience where students will undertake, in partnership with a non-academic organization. For part time students this module is only available in your second year of study. Students must have earned merit grades in their research modules to qualify for this module.

WHAT FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?

Students have an option to pursue a doctorate at the university.

WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?

N/A

Section 6 Admissions

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

A minimum of a second class Honours degree (2:1 preferred) or equivalent. Applicants without these formal qualifications, but with significant appropriate work experience, are encouraged to apply. Journalists come from a wide range of backgrounds and the profession is keen to encourage applicants from the arts, humanities, business, sciences and the social sciences. Applications are welcomed from applicants from the broadest range of disciplines.

If English is not your first language you will need to provide evidence of your proficiency in the English language.

IELTS: 6.5 with 6.0 minimum in each skill
Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): Grade C or above
Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE): Grade B or above
Pearson Test of English (Academic): 60 with 56 in each component
IBT TOEFL: 90 with no subtest less than 20

If you don’t meet the required score you may be able to register for one of our pre-sessional English courses. To register you must hold a conditional offer for your course and have an IELTS score 0.5 or 1.0 below the required standard. View our range of pre-sessional courses.