

**Summary Information**

|                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Module Code         | 6045JOURN                  |
| Formal Module Title | Public Interest Journalism |
| Owning School       | Liverpool Screen School    |
| Career              | Undergraduate              |
| Credits             | 20                         |
| Academic level      | FHEQ Level 6               |
| Grading Schema      | 40                         |

**Teaching Responsibility**

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| LJMU Schools involved in Delivery |
| Liverpool Screen School           |

**Learning Methods**

| Learning Method Type | Hours |
|----------------------|-------|
| Lecture              | 22    |
| Seminar              | 44    |

**Module Offering(s)**

| Display Name | Location | Start Month | Duration Number Duration Unit |
|--------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| SEP-MTP      | MTP      | September   | 12 Weeks                      |

**Aims and Outcomes**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| Aims | To equip students with the knowledge of how to apply media law in the UK<br>To equip students with the knowledge and understanding of how to use the Freedom of Information Act to report on public bodies<br>To provide students with the skills necessary to report on court cases and public bodies within legal and ethical frameworks<br>To develop a critical and analytical awareness of the legal and ethical frameworks in which journalists operate, and the function of public interest journalism in a democratic society |
|------|---|

**After completing the module the student should be able to:**

**Learning Outcomes**

| Code | Number | Description   |
|------|--------|---|
| MLO1 | 1      | Explain the various reporting restrictions constraining journalists and the rights they have in reporting judicial proceedings. |
| MLO2 | 2      | Critically apply knowledge of how the Freedom of Information Act can be used to source and tell stories about public bodies.    |
| MLO3 | 3      | Explain the ethical frameworks established by industry codes in the reporting of public interest stories.                       |
| MLO4 | 4      | Achieve a basic level of confidence in using shorthand as a basic tool for reporting.   |

**Module Content**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Outline Syllabus       | The court system; court reporting restrictions; contempt of court; anonymity rules in court reporting; defamation in court reporting; accessing court information; open justice; reporting inquests; a journalist rights in reporting councils, government and other public bodies; the application of the Freedom of Information Act; shorthand |
| Module Overview        |  |
| Additional Information | This module will prepare students for the NCTJ professional diploma examinations in Court Reporting and Public Affairs   |

**Assessments**

| Assignment Category | Assessment Name | Weight | Exam/Test Length (hours) | Module Learning Outcome Mapping |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Test                | Test            | 25     | 0                        | MLO4                            |
| Centralised Exam    | Exam            | 40     | 0                        | MLO1, MLO3                      |
| Essay               | Essay           | 35     | 0                        | MLO2, MLO3                      |

**Module Contacts**

**Module Leader**

| Contact Name | Applies to all offerings | Offerings |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| David Toomer | Yes                      | N/A       |

**Partner Module Team**

| Contact Name | Applies to all offerings | Offerings |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|
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