

**REGULATIONS FOR THE
POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM (PDipJ)
AND THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF JOURNALISM (MJ)**

(See also General Regulations)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference indicating that the work was submitted to The University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

Admission requirements

MJ 1. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism or the degree of Master of Journalism, candidates shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) hold
 - (i) a Bachelor's degree with honours from this University; or
 - (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
- (c) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required.

MJ 1A. Candidates who do not hold a Bachelor's degree with honours from this University or another qualification of equivalent standard may in exceptional circumstances be permitted to register if they possess proven professional experience in journalism, show evidence of excellence in the practice of journalism and proof of competence in the English language and satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if appropriate.

Qualifying examination

- MJ 2. (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic abilities or their abilities to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent, and may include a dissertation.
- (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register in the curriculum until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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Award of Postgraduate Diploma

- MJ 3. To be eligible for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism, candidates shall
- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) follow instruction on the syllabuses prescribed and complete all written and practical work which may be required; and
 - (c) satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations as set out below.
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Award of Master degree

- MJ 4. To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Journalism, candidates shall
- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
 - (b) follow instruction on the syllabuses prescribed and complete all written and practical work which may be required; and
 - (c) satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations as set out below.

MJ 5. Candidates who have been admitted to the courses leading to the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism and who have completed the curriculum for the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism and satisfied the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below, may be considered for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Journalism within 5 years of their completion of the curriculum of Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism. If candidates are so admitted, and complete the prescribed curriculum for the degree of Master of Journalism, they shall be eligible for the degree of Master of Journalism, but shall not be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism. Candidates admitted under this regulation to the courses leading to the award of Master of Journalism who fail to satisfy the examiners under MJ4 but who satisfy the examiners under MJ3 shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism.

Length of curriculum

MJ 6. The curriculum of the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism shall extend over not less than one academic year and not more than two academic years of part-time study or equivalent, and shall include written examinations administered in accordance with the regulations and syllabuses set out below.

MJ 7. The curriculum of the Master of Journalism shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study, or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, with a minimum of 300 hours of prescribed work, and shall include written examinations administered in accordance with the regulations and syllabuses set out below.

Completion of curriculum

MJ 8. To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall follow the instruction on the syllabuses prescribed and complete satisfactorily all prescribed written work and practical work; and
- (b) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of examination.

Examinations

MJ 9. An assessment of the candidates' coursework during their studies, including completion of written assignments and participation in practical work, as the case may be, may be taken into account in determining the candidates' result in each written paper; or, where so prescribed in the syllabuses, may constitute part or whole of the examination of one or more courses.

MJ 10. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners at their first attempt in not more than half of the number of units to be examined, whether by means of written examination papers or coursework assessment, during any of the academic years of study, may be permitted

- (a) to present themselves either for re-examination in the course or courses of failure, with or without repeating any part of the curriculum, or for examination in the same number of new units, except those units designated as compulsory are not replaceable under this provision; or
- (b) to repeat a year of the curriculum and present themselves for examination in the courses prescribed for the repeated year.

MJ 11. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in any prescribed practical work may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in practical work within a specified period.

MJ 12. Candidates who are unable because of illness to be present for one or more papers in any written examination may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination to be held before the beginning of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of the candidates' absence from the examination.

MJ 13. Candidates who

- (a) are not permitted to present themselves for re-examination in any written paper or any course examined by means of coursework assessment, or in practical work in which they have failed to satisfy the examiners and are not permitted to repeat a year of the curriculum under the provisions of Regulation MJ 10; or
- (b) have failed to satisfy the examiners in any written paper or any course examined by means of coursework assessment, or practical work at a second attempt; or in any new course selected under the provision of MJ 10(a)

may be required to discontinue their studies under the provisions of General Regulation G 12.

MJ 14. Candidates who have committed plagiarism in any written paper, examination, or other classroom assignment may be required to discontinue their studies.

Examination results

MJ 15. A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the postgraduate diploma or degree requirements and are to be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism or Master of Journalism shall be published. Candidates who have shown exceptional merit at the whole examination may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' postgraduate or degree diplomas.

SYLLABUSES FOR THE POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM (PDIPJ) AND THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF JOURNALISM (MJ)

PURPOSE

The diploma/degree is a professional programme designed to produce graduates for the local, regional and international media who would practice in English or Chinese, or both. The curriculum emphasizes the practice of journalism as well as the ethics, laws, history and principles of journalism. It also has a special focus on issues facing Greater China and the Asia Pacific region.

Candidates are trained to think critically and intelligently about the basic issues of the day in all forms of media. Graduates will not only be competent practitioners of journalism, but they will also help raise standards of the field by pioneering in various forms of journalism, including print, broadcasting and new media. Information technology is an integral part of the programme.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Master of Journalism

The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study, or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, with a minimum of 300 hours of prescribed work. To receive the award of Master of Journalism, candidates shall complete not less than 33 and not more than 36 units, including 6 core courses and one non-credit-bearing required course as prescribed in the syllabuses below as partial requirement for the fulfillment of the degree. In consultation with the Director of the JMSC, students may elect to pursue the MJ degree through the Chinese-language stream, which means they must complete the core courses listed below that are offered in Chinese, in addition to the core courses that are only offered in English. Waivers may be granted for core courses to students with extensive professional experience, subject to the approval of the Director.

Candidates may take no more than 6 units offered under approved graduate-level degree curricula in the Faculties of Arts, Law, Social Sciences and other divisions of teaching. A list of such elective courses will be published by the Programme Director from year to year.

Optional Summer Institutes/ Programmes:

Summer programmes/courses may be offered in conjunction with well-established universities in Mainland China or overseas. Candidates could be exempted from up to 6 units upon successful completion of the programme and credits could be given.

Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism

The programme shall extend over not less than one academic year and not more than two academic years of part-time study. To receive the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism, candidates shall complete not less than 17 and not more than 20 units, including 4 core courses and one non-credit-bearing required course as prescribed in the syllabuses below as partial requirement for the fulfillment of the degree. In consultation with the Director of the JMSC, students may elect to pursue the PDipJ through the Chinese-language stream, which means they must complete the core courses listed below that are offered in Chinese, in addition to the core courses that are only offered in English. Waivers may be granted for core courses to students with extensive professional experience, subject to the approval of the Director.

The courses listed below will not be offered each year; depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered and the courses listed below may be offered in a different year of study. Candidates should consult the Programme Director for the courses offered in any one year.

Core course list:

- JMSC6001 Advanced reporting and writing (English) (4 Units)*; or
- JMSC6069 Advanced reporting and writing (Chinese) (4 Units)*
- JMSC6002 Critical issues in journalism and global communications (2 Units)*
- JMSC6022 Media law (English) (2 Units); or
- JMSC6070 Journalism technical bootcamp (3 Units)* (For 2008-2009 intake or before)
- JMSC6071 Media law (Chinese) (2 Units)
- JMSC6091 Online journalism workshop (3 Units)*
- JMSC6092 Television news writing workshop (English) (2 Units)*; or
- JMSC6072 Television news writing workshop (Chinese) (2 Units)*
- JMSC6093 Video news production workshop (3 Units)

** core courses for Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism*

Non-credit-bearing required course:

- JMSC6094 Journalism technical bootcamp (For 2009-2010 intake only)

Elective course list:

General courses

- JMSC6024 Cultural studies of the media (3 Units)
- JMSC6025 Literary journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6026 Media law II: comparative studies (3 Units)
- JMSC6040 Special topics in journalism I (3 Units)
- JMSC6041 Special topics in journalism II (3 Units)
- JMSC6044 Master's project (4 Units)
- JMSC6045 Special topics in journalism III (2 Units)
- JMSC6046 Special topics in journalism IV (2 Units)
- JMSC6048 International news (3 Units)
- JMSC6055 Research methods for media studies (2 Units)
- JMSC6059 Legal reporting (2 Units)
- JMSC6064 Media, politics and public affairs (3 Units)
- JMSC6014 Advanced reporting and writing workshop (English) (3 Units)
- JMSC6015 Advanced reporting and writing workshop (Chinese) (3 Units)

China courses

- JMSC6027 Covering China (3 Units)
- JMSC6056 Reporting Hong Kong (3 Units)
- JMSC6057 China, globalisation and the rise of Asian business – myths, facts, and challenges (3 Units)
- JMSC6058 Navigating the fog: how the media tell China's story (3 Units)
- JMSC6065 Covering politics in China (3 Units)
- JMSC6067 Special topics in covering China I (3 Units)
- JMSC6068 Special topics in covering China II (3 Units)
- JMSC6073 Journalism traditions in China (2 Units)
- JMSC6074 Chinese non-fiction writing (2 Units)

Business and finance courses

- JMSC6017 Media economics and management (3 Units)
- JMSC6047 Business and financial journalism in an age of globalisation (3 Units)
- JMSC6053 Business and financial reporting (3 Units)
- JMSC6054 Advanced business and financial reporting (3 Units)
- JMSC6077 Covering oil and the global battle for commodities (3 Units)
- JMSC6079 Writing business feature stories (3 Units)
- JMSC6095 Covering international trade and finance (3 Units)
- JMSC6096 Business editing (3 Units)
- JMSC6097 Covering Asia-Pacific business (3 Units)
- JMSC6098 Special topics in business journalism I (3 Units)
- JMSC6099 Special topics in business journalism II (2 Units)

Multi-media courses

- JMSC6021 Visual journalism (2 Units)
- JMSC6060 Impact of new media on society (2 Units)
- JMSC6081 Technology and media (3 Units)
- JMSC6082 Photojournalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6083 Advanced multimedia skills (3 Units)
- JMSC6084 Applied convergent journalism (3 Units)
- JMSC6085 Documentary film appreciation (3 Units)
- JMSC6100 Documentary video production (3 Units)
- JMSC6101 Radio news (3 Units)

Science, health and environmental courses

- JMSC6086 Science, health and the environment: The big issues (2 Units)
- JMSC6087 Numeracy for science journalists (2 Units)
- JMSC6088 Reporting the environment (3 Units)
- JMSC6089 Reporting the big issues in science (3 Units)
- JMSC6090 Reporting health and medicine (3 Units)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Core courses

JMSC6001. Advanced reporting and writing (English) (4 Units)

The course provides students a solid grounding in reporting and writing while emphasizing the development of journalistic instincts and ethical judgment. As a key building block in the MJ programme, it covers issues applicable to all media — print, broadcast and online. In skill development, it focuses on reporting and writing for newspapers, skills that can be adapted to the particular needs of other media. Students learn by doing, sometimes under the pressure of deadlines and always under the supervision of editor-teachers who are experienced professionals. Students will be introduced to specialized reporting on such topics as politics, environment, education, social welfare and local, regional and international affairs.

JMSC6069. Advanced reporting and writing (Chinese) (4 Units)

This course has similar goals as the Advanced reporting and writing (English), adapted to incorporate the craft and traditions of Chinese-language story-telling. Special attention will be placed on the use of action, dialogue and description to produce journalistic writing in Chinese that informs, enlightens and entertains while conforming to principles of accuracy, fairness and balance.

JMSC6002. Critical issues in journalism and global communications (2 Units)

The aim of this course is to get students to think critically about the fundamental values that surround journalism. Through reading and class room discussions each student is expected to arrive at his or her own understanding of some of the philosophical, ethical, and structural issues that journalism faces. The course is structured around four “crises” of contemporary journalism: the crisis of credibility, the crisis of relevance, the organisational crisis and the crisis brought by the technological revolution.

JMSC6022. Media law (English) (2 Units)

The course introduces students to the laws relating to freedom of expression, defamation, privacy, information access, contempt of court, obscenity and regulatory schemes for broadcast and the Internet. It also examines the legality of newsgathering practice such as undercover reporting, deception and the use of hidden cameras. While the course focuses on Hong Kong, the course will also address major media law developments in Mainland China, the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere.

JMSC6070. Journalism technical bootcamp (3 Units) (For 2008-2009 intake or before)

This intensive course will teach students the technical fundamentals required for the JMSC's broadcasting and new media courses. Skills include: basic operation of still and video cameras, operation of sound recording equipment; video and audio editing with FinalCut Pro and Audacity; Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator; FTP transfer; use of content management systems; basic HTML and CSS formatting; and web publishing skills. This course is a pre-requisite for JMSC6091. Online Journalism Workshop, JMSC6092. Television news writing workshop and JMSC6093. Video news production.

JMSC6071. Media law (Chinese) (2 Units)

The course introduces students to the laws relating to freedom of expression, defamation, privacy, information access, contempt of court, obscenity and regulatory schemes for broadcast and the Internet. It also examines the legality of newsgathering practice such as undercover reporting, deception and the use of hidden cameras. While the course focuses on Hong Kong, the course will also address major media law developments in Mainland China, the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere.

JMSC6091. Online journalism workshop (3 Units)

In this course students will learn how to use their newfound skills from the technical bootcamp to cover news for the web: combining text, pictures, graphics, audio, and interactive features. Students will also learn how to use the Internet to research, report, and collaborate on stories, as well as gain hands-on experience of how the Internet is changing the practice of journalism. “Web 2.0” elements such as use of blogs, wikis, tagging, and other tools will also be used

Pre-requisite: JMSC6070. Journalism technical bootcamp

JMSC6092. Television news writing workshop (English) (2 Units)

This course focuses on the practice of reporting and writing news and features for television. Emphasis is placed on writing for the ear and the marriage of words and picture. After an introduction to the development of radio and television news internationally, students receive hands-on training during intensive weekly workshop sessions. Students work with news agency video to structure and hone writing skills.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6070. Journalism technical bootcamp

JMSC6072. Television news writing workshop (Chinese) (2 Units)

This course focuses on the practice of reporting and writing news and features for television. Emphasis is placed on writing for the ear and the marriage of words and picture. After an introduction to the development of radio and television news internationally, students receive hands-on training during intensive weekly workshop sessions. Students work with news agency video to structure and hone writing skills.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6070. Journalism technical bootcamp

JMSC6093. Video news production workshop (3 Units)

This course develops student skills in the production of television and video news stories. In small production teams, students research, organize, report, shoot, write, voice and edit their own features news stories. Students are encouraged to produce 3-4 minute features and consider doing longer form work as well. Students will be expected to gain proficiency in the use of a range of digital video cameras and edit with the tools of Final Cut Pro.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6092. Television news writing workshop, JMSC6070. Journalism technical bootcamp

Non-credit-bearing required course**JMSC6094. Journalism technical bootcamp (For 2009-10 intake only)**

This intensive course will teach students the technical fundamentals required for the JMSC's broadcasting and new media courses. Skills include: basic operation of still and video cameras, operation of sound recording equipment; video and audio editing with FinalCut Pro and Audacity; Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator; FTP transfer; use of content management systems; basic HTML and CSS formatting; and web publishing skills. This course is a pre-requisite for JMSC6091. Online Journalism Workshop, JMSC6092. Television news writing workshop and JMSC6093. Video news production. It is a non-credit-bearing required course.

Elective courses:**General courses****JMSC6024. Cultural studies of the media (3 Units)**

The course will explore theoretical perspectives on the role of media in society, the global multimedia environment and the impact of the media on civil society and public criticism. The course will review the various theoretical approaches to media studies including the works of Marshall McLuhan, Jurgen Habermas, Pierre Bourdieu, Edward Said, and James W. Carey.

JMSC6025. Literary journalism (3 Units)

This course demonstrates how journalism can rise to the level of quality non-fiction literature. Students will read a rich variety of journalistic works of recognized quality produced in English in Asia and abroad, and analyze why they succeed on both a literary and journalistic level. The class will identify the tools and techniques writers employ to construct evocative and enduring true stories. Over this journey, students will become better readers and better writers.

JMSC6026. Media law II: comparative studies (3 Units)

A comparative overview of global media law trends, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, the course covers key legal and policy developments, including defamation, privacy, information access, copyright, jurisdictional disputes and regulations involving broadcast, the Internet and media ownership.

Prerequisite: JMSC6022 Media law unless exempted by the Programme Director

JMSC6040. Special topics in journalism I (3 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

JMSC6041. Special topics in journalism II (3 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

JMSC6044. Master's project (4 Units)

Students will work with a faculty advisor to explore a topic in depth, conducting original research and field interviews. Students will learn to report and organize the large amount of information gathered and present it in one of several possible formats: a magazine-length article of about 5,000 English words, a new media production of comparable length and depth, including photos video or other visual elements, a video production or a research paper. The expectation is that the master's project will be written or presented in English. Chinese will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances, and then only if the subject matter warrants it. Students also are expected to attend a series of seminars designed to assist in the reporting, writing and completion of the project. The project should be presented by May 31 for part-time students and August 15 for full-time students of the last academic year of the curriculum.

JMSC6045. Special topics in journalism III (2 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

JMSC6046. Special topics in journalism IV (2 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on journalism and media issues under the supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the contemporary practice of journalism and the media. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on the profession.

JMSC6048. International news (3 Units)

This course introduces students to the challenges and reward of reporting foreign news. Students will be introduced to some of the major global issues dominating international news and be provided a basic grounding in international politics. The course will also have a practical element and allow students to try their hand at reporting foreign news.

JMSC6055. Research methods for media studies (2 Units)

This course is designed to provide advanced training in qualitative and quantitative approaches applicable to the study of journalism and the news media. Students focus on a variety of philosophical and conceptual approaches to research, as well as practical methodologies and tools that help them conduct scholarly research in journalism. The course surveys the range of research methodologies currently used in media studies, and the strengths and weaknesses associated with the respective research outcomes. Students taking the course are expected to have a basic understanding of quantitative research methodologies.

JMSC6059. Legal reporting (2 Units)

The course explores the challenges of covering the courts and other aspects of legal reporting, and examines styles of reporting and writing, including a study of several high profile cases. It also provides an overview of media coverage of the courts and legal issues and a review of court reporting restrictions.

JMSC6064. Media, politics and public affairs (3 Units)

The course explores the role of the media in the political process in Hong Kong and overseas, and provides an introduction to public affairs reporting. Students will look at the role the media plays in political life and try their hand at reporting politics. Students will also undertake a project in public affairs reporting, and report in depth on an issue of public importance.

JMSC6014. Advanced reporting and writing workshop (English) (3 Units)

This course aims to equip students with the theoretical and practical foundations for high-quality journalistic writing in English, focusing on in-depth features, personality profiles and news analyses and opinion writing, including editorials, columns, essays and reviews. Through lectures, examination of classic works and intensive writing assignments, students will learn how to turn collections of facts into structured stories and articles with points of view.

JMSC6015. Advanced reporting and writing workshop (Chinese) (3 Units)

This course has similar goals as the Advanced writing workshop (English), adapted to incorporate the craft and traditions of Chinese-language story-telling. Special attention will be placed on the use of action, dialogue and description to produce journalistic writing in Chinese that informs, enlightens and entertains while conforming to principles of accuracy, fairness and balance.

China courses

JMSC6027. Covering China (3 Units)

The course introduces students to the methods, as well as the ethical and cultural issues, involved in reporting on contemporary China. The course examines the public information structure in the People's Republic of China, news sources and the use of published documents and statistics, with special focus on the politics and economy of China. It will also give an overview of the state of the media and news topics in China.

JMSC6056. Reporting Hong Kong (3 Units)

The aim of this course is to give students an in-depth idea of how Hong Kong functions in terms of its economics, business and politics, and what skills and approaches are needed to cover Hong Kong as a journalist. The course provides a critical examination of many of the misconceptions that persist in the way that Hong Kong is popularly perceived. Among the questions which will be explored are: To what extent is Hong Kong a laissez-faire economy? What are the implications of the government's land policy? How does the political system in Hong Kong work, and how do the political systems and economies of Hong Kong and China interact?

JMSC6057. China, globalisation and the rise of Asian business – myths, facts, and challenges (3 Units)

This course examines the emergence of China in the context of Asia as a powerhouse in global business and finance, and how that story is being told in the international and local media. The entrance of China onto the global stage in recent decades has sharpened the debate over what lies behind Asia's economic successes and failures. This course explores the complex and sometimes contradictory ways these developments have been portrayed in the media. The aim is to develop a critical and historical understanding of how business and financial issues of global significance are played out in coverage of day-to-day business issues.

JMSC6058. Navigating the fog: how the media tell China's story (3 Units)

This course provides students with an insider view of the political, social and economic transformation of today's China. Through seminars with China experts, international correspondents, and government officials, the course offers a road map on covering China, and the challenges and ways to overcome them. The course discusses what stories to look for, where to find sources and how to assess the validity of sources. The aim of the course is to equip students with the practical reporting skills needed to navigate what is one of the world's most important economic, political and social news stories.

JMSC6065. Covering politics in China (3 units)

This course provides an in-depth study of the background and skills needed by reporters covering political news on the People's Republic of China. Among the subjects discussed are the roles of the central, provincial and local governments and their relationship to the Communist Party, the challenges of news sourcing in the PRC, and the major themes that dominate political news on China.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6027. Covering China (or with the permission of the instructor).

JMSC6067. Special topics in covering China I (3 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on specialized areas of news coverage on the People's Republic of China. The aim is to deepen the student's ability to understand and report on China. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The course also provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media studies for publication in academic journals, but is primarily aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on new coverage of China.

JMSC6068. Special topics in covering China II (3 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on specialized areas of news coverage on the People's Republic of China. The aim is to deepen the student's ability to understand and report on China. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The course also provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media studies for publication in academic journals, but is primarily aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on new coverage of China.

JMSC6073. Journalism traditions in China (2 Units)

Language of Instruction: Mandarin

The history of the press in China stretches from the late Qing Dynasty to the present day. Early examples include newspapers launched by Christian missionaries from the West, papers published by nineteenth century reformers of the Modernization Party and Reform Party, and the journalism of the Republican Era. In the modern era, we have the media of mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The goal of this course is to give students a better grasp of press developments in Greater China, particularly over the last century, and a deeper understanding of China's own journalism lineages. Studies will focus on major historical outlines and timelines as well as key journalism personalities, works and news events.

JMSC6074. Chinese non-fiction writing (2 Units)

Language of Instruction: Mandarin

This course will review major genres or forms of factual-based journalism, including reportage, non-fiction writing, literary journalism, memoir and documentaries. The course aims to give students a solid foundation and concept of non-fiction forms as well as a grasp of relevant reporting and writing techniques. The course will focus on three aspects: 1) a study of key figures in Chinese non-fiction, from Liu Binyan and Lu Yuegang to Czech writer Egon Erwin Kisch; 2) a study of basic non-fiction writing techniques through published works; 3) a study of non-fiction research and reporting techniques.

Business and finance courses**JMSC6017. Media economics and management (3 Units)**

The course examines the theory and practice of media economics and its impact on the performance and conduct of media companies. Using case studies in Hong Kong, Asia and North America, the course explores the management of media companies as an art and a science. Topics include analysis of the total business process, leadership, patterns of ownership, merger and acquisitions, finance and accounting, human resources development, sales and marketing, and ethics. It also explores pressures of advertising on radio and television programming. It also examines effective management in the newsroom and the challenges facing media executives in the region.

JMSC6047. Business and financial journalism in an age of globalisation (3 Units)

This course analyzes a range of economic, financial, and business issues that are relevant to journalism in an age of increasing globalisation. The historical perspective provided in this course covers the rise of Asia's economies in recent decades, the onset of the 1997 – 98 financial crisis, and the emergence of China as a major player in the world economy. . The aim of the course is to provide reporters with the historical and critical tools needed to get beyond the cliches that cloud so much of contemporary business and financial journalism. The course targets the big picture issues that journalists today need to know to cover an increasingly complex economic landscape.

JMSC6053. Business and financial reporting (3 Units)

This course covers the basic knowledge and writing skills needed to succeed in the fast-growing field of business and financial journalism. Lectures focus on core skills such as reading financial documents, understanding macroeconomic and microeconomic issues, working with statistics, reporting on companies and covering competition in a global economy. Students receive hands-on training in how to write the bread-and-butter stories in the business sections of newspapers, as well as an introduction to writing in-depth business and financial feature stories. Introductory knowledge of economics is recommended for those who wish to take the course.

JMSC6054. Advanced business and financial reporting (3 Units)

This course covers the advanced knowledge, as well as the reporting and writing skills, needed to cover business and financial issues in depth. Lectures explore the intricacies of global financial markets and the increasingly sophisticated instruments that are traded on them. The course also introduces students to the research and investigative techniques required to report on business and financial issues that are often concealed by companies and governments. Students produce a piece of investigative business reporting as part of the course requirements.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6053. Business and financial reporting

JMSC6077. Covering oil and the global battle for commodities (3 Units)

This course provides an introduction to the economic, social, political, environmental and business issues related to the global demand for oil and commodities. The course consists of lectures and student presentations. Under the direction of the instructor, students will work in teams to explore the energy policies of selected countries and also examine the supply and demand issues for a range of widely used commodities. The aim is to equip students to understand the complexities of this specialized area of business reporting.

JMSC6079. Writing business feature stories (3 Units)

Students learn information-gathering techniques and story forms for business features. Students write stories that hinge on economic impact; business and economic trends; competition; innovation; and profiles of individuals and organizations. Students may utilize multimedia storytelling to complete their assignments. Emphasis is placed on strong narrative qualities and clear explanations of processes and relevance. Procedures for freelancing business features are exercised.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6053. Business and financial reporting.

JMSC6095. Covering international trade and finance (3 Units)

The course surveys institutions and current issues of international trade and finance. It examines roles and coverage parameters for the IMF and World Bank; national central banks; multinational banks, hedge funds and other financial institutions; international regulators such as the WTO, IASB and World Court; and multinational corporations. Trade balances, foreign-exchange markets, sovereign debt markets, international economic indicators and global economic cyclicity will be examined.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6053. Business and financial reporting.

JMSC6096. Business editing (3 Units)

This course is aimed at students who wish to improve their copy editing and news management skills. The course will explore how to spot and correct the most common types of errors in business news, as well as more sophisticated challenges in editing business content. The course will also focus on story conception, management, structure and headline writing. While the emphasis will be on daily news editing, the course will also examine broadcast, magazine and Web editing.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6053. Business and financial reporting.

JMSC6097. Covering Asia-Pacific business (3 Units)

This course explores how to cover the diverse economies of the Asia-Pacific region. Brief business histories of regional economies will be compiled. Sources of business and financial data in various markets will be explored. Economies of the region—their components and degree of development—will be examined to deduce probable economic themes in the future. Particular challenges, from demographic to regulatory, will be highlighted.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6053. Business and financial reporting.

JMSC6098. Special topics in business journalism I (3 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on business journalism issues under the individual supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the practice of business journalism. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on business journalism.

JMSC6099. Special topics in business journalism II (2 Units)

This course provides for in-depth studies on business journalism issues under the individual supervision of instructors. Students may be required to participate in seminars, conduct reporting and original research, and write one or more papers. The aim of the course is to develop a significant level of understanding and insight into issues that have an impact on the practice of business journalism. The course provides scope for research outputs by students who wish to pursue media issues for publication in academic journals, but is also aimed at working journalists who seek a deeper understanding of issues that have an impact on business journalism.

Multi-media courses

JMSC6021. Visual journalism (2 Units)

The course explores the power of visual thinking, storytelling and presentation; info-graphics and constructing information with digital tools. It provides a theoretical and practical examination of visual communication processes related to desktop publishing, photography, layout, design, and Web information products. The hands-on element covers the creation of logical graphical elements and presentation pages for disseminating news in print and online media.

JMSC6060. Impact of new media on society (2 Units)

This course examines the social, economic and legal implications of emerging interactive digital technologies on culture and public life. Topics include online collaboration and relationships; free speech, copyright, file sharing and remix culture; role of virtual communities as a social space and its influence on traditional spheres; impact of wireless always-online capabilities; grassroots and citizens efforts in journalism and the arts. With such rapid developments, how have business models, government policies and social attitudes been affected? Studies will be global in scope, with a particular focus on the adoption of new media in Asia, and its influence on the development of today's online digital culture.

JMSC6081. Technology and media (3 Units)

This course focuses on how to cover technology and media stories. Lectures will teach students about today's key issues concerning the relationship between technology, media, and society. Hands-on blogging assignments will teach students how to analyze and cover technology and media stories.

JMSC6082. Photojournalism (3 Units)

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of news photography: how to operate a professional digital camera and how to capture professional-quality news images. Using Hong Kong as a backdrop, students learn how to shoot images of urban news and feature events. By the end of the class each student will have produced a comprehensive photographic portfolio.

JMSC6083. Advanced multimedia skills (3 Units)

This technical course teaches students how to use advanced graphics and multimedia software to create multimedia story packages on the web using video and the skills learned in Online Journalism Workshop and Television and Video Production. Students will learn advanced use of Dreamweaver, Flash, CSS, HTML, etc. By the end of the class each student will be able to produce a stand-alone multimedia website.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6091. Online Journalism Workshop and JMSC6093. Video news production workshop, or with the permission of the instructor.

JMSC6084. Applied convergent journalism (3 Units)

Students apply their skills in web, multimedia, video, and reporting/writing and spend a semester covering a subject in-depth for a public website, as well as offering student products as TV and print packages to local media. Students and faculty will also explore the use of new “participatory” or “web2.0” techniques to engage in conversation with the public as part of the journalistic process. Each year a different “theme” for the course will be chosen. The goal is to produce original, innovative journalism of professional quality with real public impact, and to provide opportunities for deserving student work to appear in the websites, TV programmes, magazines and newspapers of real news organizations.

Pre-requisite: JMSC6091. Online Journalism workshop and JMSC6093. Video news production workshop, or with the permission of the instructors.

JMSC6085. Documentary film appreciation (3 Units)

This course provides a comprehensive survey of the history and development of the documentary film in North America, Europe, and Asia. It traces the evolution of the genre from the late 19th century to the present. Discusses issues involved in the making of non-fiction film including style, ethics, voice, objectivity/subjectivity, distribution platforms, and censorship. A unique section of the course will explore young independent film makers in Asia. Emphasis will be placed on in-depth critical analysis of films.

JMSC6100. Documentary video production (3 Units)

This course trains students to produce documentary videos for television. The course covers research, exploration of different styles and perspectives, and the structuring of documentaries, as well as ethical and legal issues. Guest speakers, including television programmers and funding agencies, will shed light on fundraising and the pitching of ideas. Students will work in groups to produce a project proposal and a 20 minutes documentary.

JMSC6101. Radio news (3 Units)

This course provides an introduction to the radio news industry, its traditions and influence. Students will also learn the practical skills to report and produce radio news stories and current affairs of radio programming. Students learn radio writing and production, including daily coverage, interviews and longer-format features. Class projects include field reporting and the use of digital audio equipment to produce audio reports and programs for use by broadcasters or on internet media outlets.

Science, health and environmental courses

JMSC6086. Science, health and the environment: The big issues (2 Units)

This course introduces students to the major issues in science, health and the environment that are going to be hitting the headlines in the years to come. Students also learn some of the fundamentals of science journalism, and the principles of communicating scientific developments, particularly the uncertainties around scientific knowledge to the public.

JMSC6087. Numeracy for science journalists (2 Units)

This course will introduce students to the basic principles of the scientific method, and the statistical and probability tools that scientists use. Students will be introduced to the major scientific journals, learn to interpret their findings, and write short articles based on journal papers.

JMSC6088. Reporting the environment (3 Units)

This course provides a survey of the major environmental issues facing the world, and the global efforts to mitigate them. Students will also study classical works of environmental reporting, such as Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, and report stories for an online newswire.

JMSC6089. Reporting the big issues in science (3 Units)

This course will look in depth at several areas of science that are currently in the public eye (such as genetics and nanotechnology) to provide an understanding of the science behind these areas and look at how they are being reported. Students will report and write stories for an online science newswire.

JMSC6090. Reporting health and medicine (3 Units)

This course will be a mixture of theory and practice, with lectures from experts from the faculty of medicine and field trips and visits to hospitals and health facilities. Students will also report and write stories for an online newswire.