

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM (BJ)**

*(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula)*

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### **Definitions**

**J1**<sup>1</sup> In these Regulations, and in the Syllabuses for the degree of BJ, unless the context otherwise requires –

‘Course’ means a course of instruction which normally carries 6 credits or in some cases 3 credits or multiples of 3, leading to one examination paper as defined in the syllabus;

‘Paper’ means one or more of the following tests: a theoretical examination paper, a practical examination paper, an assessment of field practice, a thesis, and a dissertation, or other assignments as prescribed in the syllabus of the course leading to it;

‘Credits’ means the weight assigned to each course relative to the total study load. The number of credits is indicative of the contact hours and / or study time associated with the course on a weekly basis;

‘Pre-requisite’ means a course which candidates must have completed as specified to the satisfaction of the Head of Department before being permitted to take the course in question.

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### **Admission to the degree**

**J2** To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Journalism, candidates shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
  - (c) complete the curriculum in accordance with the regulations that follow.
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### **Length of study**

**J3** The curriculum shall normally extend over three academic years consisting of six semesters of full-time study, excluding the summer semesters. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to complete the curriculum in more than four academic years, which being the maximum period of registration.

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### **Completion of the curriculum**

**J4** To complete the curriculum, candidates shall:

- (a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG3 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula<sup>2</sup>;
- (b) enrol in not less than 180 and not more than 216 credits of courses, unless otherwise required or permitted under the Regulations;
- (c) follow the required number of compulsory and elective courses as prescribed in the syllabuses of the equivalent of normally 60 credits for each year of study. For each semester, candidates shall select not less than 24 and not more than 36 credits of courses, except for the last semester of study;

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<sup>1</sup> This regulation should be read in conjunction with UG1 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

<sup>2</sup> The specific requirements applicable to candidates of this degree curriculum are spelt out in the syllabuses.

- (d) take a maximum of 81 credits of junior-level courses and the rest being senior-level courses as prescribed in the syllabuses over the entire period; and
  - (e) successfully complete 3 credits of summer internship.
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### **Selection of Courses**

**J5** Candidates who wish to withdraw from a course at the beginning of each semester may do so up to 2 weeks after the commencement of the semester. Withdrawal beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons acceptable by the Faculty Board, and candidates who withdraw from any course without permission will be given a failing grade.

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### **Assessment and grading**

**J6** Candidates shall be assessed in each of the courses for which they have registered. The assessment may take one or a combination of forms as prescribed in the syllabuses and shall normally include the candidates' coursework during the semester. Only those satisfactorily completed courses will earn credits.

**J7** Candidates' performance in a course shall be assessed with the grading system as prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

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### **Failure in examination**

**J8** Candidates who fail in any course may, as directed by the Board of Examiners, be permitted to present themselves for re-assessment with or without repeating the failed course. The timing and the form(s) of re-assessment shall be decided by the Board of Examiners. Candidates shall not be allowed to repeat a course for which they have achieved a passed grade for upgrading purposes, nor shall they be permitted to repeat a course more than once. The failed grade will be recorded in the official transcripts. The new grade obtained after re-assessment will also be recorded and will replace the previous F grade in the calculation of the weighted grade averages. As failed courses shall not be credited towards a degree, failed compulsory courses must be re-assessed.

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### **Absence from examination**

**J9** Candidates who are unable because of their illness to be present for any written examinations may apply for permission to present themselves for a supplementary examination to be held before the beginning of the first semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of absence from any examination. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners in one or more papers in such a supplementary examination shall be considered under the provisions made in these Regulations for failure at the first attempt at the examination, except that a further supplementary examination shall not be permitted.

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### **Performance assessment**

**J10** At the end of each semester, candidates' performance shall be assessed for the purposes of determining

- (a) their eligibility for progression to an award of the degree;
- (b) their eligibility for the award; or
- (c) whether they be required to be discontinued from the programme.

### **Progression of studies**

**J11** Candidates shall be permitted to progress if they have:

- (a) not exceeded the maximum period of the registration; and
- (b) accumulated not less than 30 credits and attained a GPA of 1.00 or above over the first and second semesters; or
- (c) accumulated not less than 30 credits and attained a GPA of 1.50 or above over the third and fourth semesters; or
- (d) accumulated not less than 30 credits and attained a GPA of 1.50 or above over the fifth and sixth semesters; or
- (e) attained a semester GPA of 1.50 or above at the end of each subsequent semester.

Those who have not been able to fulfill the requirements above shall be recommended for discontinuation from the programme under General Regulation G12.

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### **Award of the degree**

**J12** To be eligible for the award of the degree of BJ, candidates shall have:

- (a) achieved a weighted GPA of 1.00 or above;
  - (b) accumulated a minimum of 180 credits; and
  - (c) satisfied the requirements in UG3 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.
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### **Degree classification**

**J13** A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the degree requirements shall be published in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty at its full discretion by taking the overall performance of candidates and other relevant factors into consideration.

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## **SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM**

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### **CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

1. Regulations J1 to 5 specify the requirements with which candidates have to comply for completion of the BJ degree programme. Further details of the requirements are given in the syllabuses.

The programme which normally extends over three academic years of six semesters of full-time study provides candidates with the flexibility to complete their studies within a maximum period of four academic years. Candidates shall enrol in not less than 180 and not more than 216 credits of courses for the curriculum. They shall select not less than 24 and not more than 36 credits of courses for each semester. The normal semester load is 30 credits.

2. For the fulfillment of Regulation UG3 “Requirements for Graduation”, candidates shall complete successfully the three language studies courses and the general studies courses. Also, candidates shall obtain a pass in an Information Technology proficiency test, or successfully complete a 3-credit course in Information Technology.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

### Junior-level courses

Candidates are permitted to take a maximum of 81 credits of junior-level courses comprising the following:

JMSC0101.	Principles of journalism and the news media	(6 credits)
JMSC0102.	News reporting and writing workshop	(6 credits)
JMSC0103.	Statistics for journalists	(6 credits)
ECEN1901.	Academic English for social sciences	(3 credits)
ECEN1910.	Professional writing for the media	(3 credits)
CSSC1001.	Practical Chinese language course for social sciences students <u>or</u>	(3 credits)
CUND0002.	Practical Chinese language and Hong Kong society ( <i>for Mainland students only</i> ) <u>or</u>	
CUND0003.	Cantonese for Mainland students ( <i>for Mainland students only</i> )	
ECON1001.	Introduction to economics I or	(6 credits)
JMSC0104	Economics for journalists	
PHIL1005.	Critical thinking and logic	(6 credits)
An introductory course in the Faculty of Social Sciences		(6 credits)
An introductory or foundation course required for pursuing a “major” or a “double minor” in the Faculties of Social Sciences, Arts, Business and Economics, Science and Engineering.		(6 credits)
Science and technology studies		(3 credits)
Culture and value studies or any elective course outside the BJ syllabus		(3 credits)
Foundations to information technology <u>or</u>		(3 credits)
Information technology proficiency test		(0 credit)

### Senior-level courses

Candidates are required to take 12 credits of core courses plus 48 credits of elective courses. Also, candidates are required to successfully complete 6 credits of summer internship in either their first or second summer of study.

#### **Core Courses (18 credits)**

JMSC0007.	New media workshop	(6 credits)
JMSC0019.	Media law and ethics	(6 credits)
JMSC0201.	Journalism summer internships	(6 credits)

#### **Elective Courses (48 credits)**

JMSC0008.	Multimedia production	(6 credits)
JMSC0017.	Feature writing	(6 credits)
JMSC0018.	Chinese news writing	(6 credits)
JMSC0025.	Journalism traditions	(6 credits)
JMSC0026.	Independent study	(6 credits)
JMSC0027.	The press, politics and government	(6 credits)
JMSC0033.	Literary journalism	(6 credits)
JMSC0034.	Covering China	(6 credits)
JMSC0037.	Advanced Chinese news writing	(6 credits)
JMSC0038.	Visual journalism	(6 credits)
JMSC0042.	International news	(6 credits)

JMSC0043.	Reporting public health issues	(6 credits)
JMSC0044.	Special topics in journalism I	(6 credits)
JMSC0045.	Special topics in journalism II	(6 credits)
JMSC0046.	Introduction to television	(6 credits)
JMSC0051.	Television news writing	(6 credits)
JMSC0052.	Television news production	(6 credits)
JMSC0053.	Radio news production	(6 credits)
JMSC0054.	Public affairs reporting	(6 credits)
JMSC0055.	Specialised reporting	(6 credits)
JMSC0056.	Business and financial reporting	(6 credits)
JMSC0059.	Covering the environment	(6 credits)
JMSC0060.	Internet, technology and society	(6 credits)
JMSC0061.	Documentary film appreciation	(6 credits)
JMSC0062.	Quantitative methods for media studies	(6 credits)
JMSC0063.	News photography	(6 credits)
JMSC0064.	Supervised research	(6 credits)
SOCI0079.	Researching media and culture	(6 credits)
SOCI0015.	Hong Kong popular culture	(6 credits)
SOCI0067.	Crime and the media	(6 credits)
SOCI0075.	Hong Kong: community and cultural policy in the global context	(6 credits)

Besides fulfilling the above requirements, it is mandatory that candidates should pursue a ‘major’, or a ‘double minor’ as prescribed in the syllabuses below.

- (a) A ‘major’ is defined as taking not less than 48 (candidates who major in psychology should register not less than 54 credits) and not more than 78 credits of courses from a single department/programme listed below:

*Disciplinary Majors*

- American Studies
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Chinese History and Culture
- Chinese Language and Literature
- Chinese Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Cross-Cultural Studies in English
- Earth Sciences
- Ecology & Biodiversity
- Economics (For candidates admitted in or after the academic year 2005-2006 only)
- Economics and Finance (For candidates admitted in the academic year 2004-2005 only)
- English Studies
- Environmental Protection
- European Studies
- Finance (For candidates admitted in or after the academic year 2005-2006 only)
- Fine Arts
- Food and Nutritional Science
- Geography
- History
- Human Language Technology

- Japanese Studies
- Language (French/German/Spanish)
- Language and Communication
- Linguistics
- Linguistics and Philosophy
- Material Science
- Mathematics
- Modern China Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics and Public Administration
- Psychology
- Risk Management
- Social Work and Social Administration
- Sociology
- Statistics
- Translation

*Multi-disciplinary Majors*

- Criminal Justice
- Global Studies
- Public and Social Administration

(b) (i) Double Minor

A 'double minor' is defined as taking not less than 24 credits from each of the two departments or programmes specified below:

*Disciplinary Minors*

- Actuarial Studies
- American Studies
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Biotechnology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Chinese History and Culture
- Chinese Language and Literature
- Chinese Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Computer Science
- Cross-Cultural Studies in English
- Earth Sciences
- Ecology & Biodiversity
- Economics
- English Studies
- Environmental Protection
- European Studies
- Finance
- Fine Arts
- Food and Nutritional Science
- General Science
- Geography
- Global Climate Change

- History
- Japanese Studies (Japanese Language/Japanese Culture)
- Language  
(Arabic/French/German/Italian/Korean/Portuguese/Spanish/Swedish/Thai)
- Language and Communication
- Legal Studies
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Modern China Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics and Public Administration
- Psychology
- Risk Management
- Social Administration
- Sociology
- Statistics
- Translation

*Multi-disciplinary Minors*

- Criminal Justice
- Global Studies
- Human Resource Management
- Public and Social Administration

(For detailed requirements of majors, minors and course descriptions, please refer to the BSocSc, BA, BBA, BBA(Acc&Fin), BBA(IBGM), BBA(IS), BBA(Law), BEcon, BEcon&Fin, BFin, BSc and BEng syllabuses.)

**Note:**

(1) Candidates should complete the following courses in or before the second semester:

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|-----------|--|
| JMSC0101. | Principles of journalism and the news media  |
| JMSC0102. | News reporting and writing workshop  |
| JMSC0103. | Statistics for journalists   |
| ECEN1901. | Academic English for social sciences   |
| ECEN1910. | Professional writing for the media   |
| CSSC1001. | Practical Chinese language course for social sciences students <u>or</u>                         |
| CUND0002. | Practical Chinese language and Hong Kong society ( <i>for Mainland students only</i> ) <u>or</u> |
| CUND0003. | Cantonese for Mainland students ( <i>for Mainland students only</i> )                            |

Candidates should complete all junior-level core courses and the following courses in or before the fourth semester:

Culture and value studies or any elective course outside the BJ syllabus  
 Science and technology studies  
 Foundations to information technology or Information technology proficiency test

Candidates should ensure that they have taken the relevant junior-level course(s) for the subject in which they intend to major.

(2) For 'Multi-disciplinary majors', selection is subject to the compliance with prescribed requirements and acceptance by the Heads of Department/staff concerned.

(3) Candidates may take at most 12 3-credit courses for the curriculum, while the remaining should be 6-credit or more courses.

(4) Course registration

Course registration will take place before the commencement of each semester.

Candidates are advised to consult relevant teachers or Heads of Departments on the suitable combinations of courses and to adhere closely to the normal study pattern. Less suitable combinations of courses may not be permitted because of timetabling difficulties. Courses listed in the syllabuses may not necessarily be offered every year; and depending on the exigencies of staffing, additional courses may be offered.

Candidates may change their course selection during the two-week add/drop period which is scheduled at the beginning of each semester. Withdrawal beyond the 2-week deadline will not be permitted, except for medical or other reasons acceptable by the Faculty Board. Candidates withdrawal from any course without permission will be given a failed grade. In course registration, candidates should pay special attention to the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of courses as specified in the syllabuses. A prerequisite is a course which candidates must have completed in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the Head of Department before being permitted to take a course in question. A co-requisite is a course which candidates must take at the same time as the course in question.

*Candidates admitted to this programme could refer to p.1461 to p.1822 for courses offered by other Faculties and Centres.*