

**JOUR 4036 Communication Theory (3,3,0) (tbc)**

This course examines various theoretical perspectives and practices regarding the performance, role, functions, and effects of journalism and media in modern society. It has three primary tasks: (1) to provide a basic understanding of journalism and mass media as social institutions; (2) to give students an ability to critically evaluate the interplay between journalism and the larger socio-political environment; and (3) to enhance students' knowledge about the production, content, meaning, and impact of news.

**JOUR 4037 In-depth Reporting (Broadcast) (2,2,0) (tbc)**

Prerequisite: JOUR 3087 Advanced Broadcast Reporting and Production

This course aims at introducing the students to advanced levels of interviewing, news writing and investigative reporting. The course stimulates thinking and cultivates a critical mind regarding the form as well as the content of news making. The course also guides the students to develop a systematic approach in reporting and producing in-depth stories for radio and television. Reference to the Hong Kong context is emphasized.

**JOUR 4895 Journalism Honours Project (4,\* ,\*) (tbc)**

In this course students integrate theory and practice by either producing a substantial piece of individually produced Journalism/Broadcast Journalism; or an academic dissertation. In either case the Honours Project is a means of engaging the student in a piece of independent research that provides an analytical and critical evaluation of an idea. The course tests research and professional skills as well as the ability to apply theoretical insights.

**JOUR 7010 International Relations Theory and Practice (3,3,0)**

This course aims to investigate the various theoretical and analytical frameworks in the field of international relations. A review of the dominant paradigms in international relations will facilitate a more advanced understanding of the transformation of the global order in the 21st century among students with a journalism background. Topical issues in international news such as terrorism, the implications of 9-11, the US war with Iraq, and Chinese foreign relations will also be covered.

**JOUR 7020 Introduction to Comparative and International News (3,3,0)**

This course introduces students to the various forms of national news media systems that have developed at different times and in different locations round the world to enable them to compare and re-assess their own news media. It also introduces them to the markedly different international news system, and to the way international news operates. Theories and concepts developed try to explain and categorise why news media systems have developed differently in different nations will be analysed and studied in the context of comparing real examples. For international news students will be acquainted with the main operators, the international news process, journalists and their work, and the major theories and concepts of the area. The meanings and implications of the concept of press freedom will be discussed. There will be an emphasis on the news media systems of East and Southeast Asia.

**JOUR 7030 Research Methods in Media and Communication (3,3,0)**

The goal of the course is to (1) familiarize students with main types of measurement and collection of evidence in the field of mass communication, particularly journalism; (2) provide students with a critical framework for evaluating mass media production process and product, communication and communication research conducted by others; (3) give students first-hand experience in the research process; and (4) sensitize students to the need of answering communication and related questions in a scientific manner either as the producer or the consumers of journalism.

**JOUR 7040 International News Laboratory (3,3,0)**

The laboratory course provides hands-on experience producing and processing international news. Under supervision, students locate, research, report, edit and upload stories of international interest for the HKBU International News website. All students taking the MA programme are required to participate in this course.

**JOUR 7050 Newsgathering for International Practice I (3,3,0)**

This course introduces students to the professional practices of reporting and producing news items for international news media. Students will examine news stories produced for global consumption and learn how international news production differs from local and domestic news production. They will become aware of the ethical dimensions and social implications of international news practice with a view to identifying references which are less socio-culturally centred than in local news. (Note: Experienced journalists may be exempted from this course with the approval of the Programme Director. It must be replaced with an elective course.)

**JOUR 7060 Advanced English for Journalism (3,2,1)**

This course will provide advanced English skills as needed for international journalism. At the end of this course students will be able to (1) analyse professional writing to identify writing techniques and grammar patterns in English, (2) write complex sentences and journalistic material with a high degree of English accuracy, (3) discuss current events with high-level language and appropriate vocabulary in English, (4) apply advanced English skills to journalism pieces, and (5) demonstrate knowledge of English usage in international journalism. Native speakers of English will be exempt, but will have to take an elective to replace this course.

**JOUR 7070 Theories of Journalism and Communication (3,3,0)**

This course examines the theoretical perspectives and practices regarding the performance, role, functions, and effects of journalism and media in modern society, with a specific emphasis on issues in the greater China region.

**JOUR 7080 Current Issues and Case Studies in International News (3,3,0)**

The foci of international news are constantly moving due to developments in national and global politics, society, business and technology. The field also encompasses a wide area, covering national and international power, economy and business, celebrity, disaster, war and many more. This course is designed to allow students to concentrate on the major debates of international news as well as controversies that arise during the period of the programme or in which there is a special interest. Courses can be chosen at the start of term or even during term in order to provide the opportunity to discuss the most current issues. The case study method is suited to focusing on specific trends and events in depth and can be used both for the contemporary issues and for those from earlier periods or the wider field, such as the examination of research. Students may themselves contribute to the selection of areas of study. This course is particularly designed to encourage discussion and debate in class and in written work.

**JOUR 7090 International News Translation (3,3,0)**

This course aims at enhancing the student's ability in handling information for news purpose in the bilingual context of Hong Kong. Emphasis is put on developing the student's sensitivity to the difference between the Chinese and English language and awareness of the cultural role of the news translator. Against this background, principles and methods appropriate to a variety of contexts of news translation are introduced. This is an elective course for all Journalism Option students.