

Programme Specification

(Notes on how to complete this template are provide in Annexe 3)

1. Overview/ factual information

Programme/award title(s)	FD Journalism and Documentary Production
Teaching Institution	Belfast Metropolitan College
Awarding Institution	The Open University (OU)
Date of first OU validation	23 rd March 2023
Date of latest OU (re)validation	N/A
Next revalidation	23 rd March 2028
Credit points for the award	240 points
UCAS Code	
HECoS Code	
LDCS Code (FE Colleges)	
Programme start date and cycle of starts if appropriate.	September 2023
Underpinning QAA subject benchmark(s)	QAA Undergraduate Subject Benchmark Statements for Communications, Media, Film & Cultural Studies (2019)
Other external and internal reference points used to inform programme outcomes. For apprenticeships, the standard or framework against which it will be delivered.	
Professional/statutory recognition	Northern Ireland Screen, Royal Television Society
For apprenticeships fully or partially integrated Assessment.	
Mode(s) of Study (PT, FT, DL, Mix of DL & Face-to-Face) Apprenticeship	Full time - Face to Face
Duration of the programme for each mode of study	Full-time and Part-Time - 2 years
Dual accreditation (if applicable)	
Date of production/revision of this specification	

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in student module guide(s) and the students handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Educational aims and objectives

The proposed rationale of the programme is to:

1. Equip students with the skills and knowledge relevant to employment in the media industry in the key creative and technical areas.
2. To support the participation of students from a range of disciplines to equip them with the knowledge and skills to enter employment where data is used to shape organisational growth and sustainability.
3. To provide a solution to meet the needs of employers in media sectors where the application of IT skills, teamworking, script writing, project managing, directing, camera skills, lighting skills, sound skills and postproduction skills. In addition, this programme will cover relevant law, ethics, policy and procedures that are essential to producers of factual content, this will ensure that students are ready for the workplace.
4. To provide a sustainable pipeline of new talent for employers currently experiencing skills deficit in the ever growing area of media production.
5. To provide an opportunity for students to progress to a range of bachelor's degree (Hons) programmes.
6. To provide an opportunity for students to experience and apply the knowledge and transferable skills in the workplace.

Target Audience:

The target audience is students who have recently completed, A-Levels or equivalent in relevant subjects e.g. Creative Media Production, Journalism, Moving Image Arts or Film Studies in addition to Politics and English.

The students should have a specific interest in developing a career in Journalism and Documentary Production however the skills would be transferrable to other areas of the media industry e.g., Television production, Public Relations, Communications, Lobbying, Policy Making and Advertising.

Structure:

- The FD in Journalism and Documentary Production will be structured in a way that supports the transfer of academic knowledge and understanding and that

this integrates with and supports the development of vocational skills and competencies, whilst ensuring academic rigour.

- The structure of the programme will take account of external reference points such as Frameworks for Higher Educational Qualifications, Professional Body accreditation schemes.
- The programme will ensure that the Work Based Learning (WBL) is relevant and contextualised within the scope of the industries needed to promote and ensure the availability of a pipeline of talent. WBL will also be structured to support the enhancement of relevant transferable skills needed for employment in this sector. Cognisance will also be given to ensuring the programme is representing opportunities for employment across small and medium sized enterprises and self employment.
- WBL will be supported to enable students to take on appropriate role(s) within the workplace, giving them the opportunity to learn and apply the skills and knowledge they have acquired as an integrated element of the course. WBL will be supported and encouraged throughout the course, with a core focus on Journalism and Documentary Production. The WBL activities should lead to the identification and achievement of defined and related learning outcomes for the learner.
- The structure of the FD in Journalism and Documentary Production will have at its core, an integrated approach to demonstration of characteristics that include employer involvement; accessibility; articulation and progression, flexibility and partnerships with industry.
- The students will take part in extracurricular opportunities in Journalism, Documentary Production, content creation and more, giving them real work experience of the industry. Students will be encouraged to submit their final productions to both student competitions and professional documentary festivals, including but not limited to; RTS Awards, Belfast Film Festival, Cinemagic Film Festival and The Rode Reel competition. This will develop the learner's communication and teamworking skills as well as giving them a feel for the competitive nature of the film industry.

At Level 4 students will undertake six compulsory 20 credit modules:

- Introduction to Journalism and Documentary Productions
- Production Skills 1: Camera, Audio and Lighting
- Production Skills 2: Postproduction Techniques
- Marketing and Exhibition
- Factual Sourcing
- Media Law and Ethics

At level 5 students will undertake five compulsory units. Work Based Learning is at 40 Credits and all others are 20 credits.

- Documentary Development: Narrative Storytelling in Factual Productions
- Documentary Project
- Journalism Project
- Applied News Production
- Work Based Learning

Upon successful completion of Level 4 and Level 5 modules, students will have attained the award of Foundation Degree (FD).

The programme will prepare students to work in many creative industries covering a wide range of jobs. They also can progress on to BSc Hons related programmes specifically the likes of:

BA (Hons) Filmmaking University of Central Lancashire

BA (Hons) Film and Television Production Teesside University

BA (Hons) Digital Journalism and Documentary Production Ravensbourne University London

BA (Hons) Film, TV, Radio and Media Production Liverpool Hope University

BA (Hons) Film Edinburgh Napier University

BA (Hons) Broadcast Journalism – Confetti Nottingham Trent University

BA (Hons) Media Production – Confetti Nottingham Trent University

BA (Hons) Journalism – Teesside University

BA (Hons) Journalism – UCLAN

BA (Hons) Media & Television Production – UCLAN

BA (Hons) Journalism (Broadcast) - University of Salford, Manchester

BA (Hons) Television and Radio Production – University of Salford

MA Wildlife Documentary Production – University of Salford

MA Documentary Production for TV, Film and Digital Media – University of Salford

BA (Hons) Journalism with Public Relations – University of Salford

2.4 List of all exit awards

Certificate in Higher Education (Cert HE) upon successful completion of 120 credits at Level 4.

Foundation Degree (FD) upon successful completion of 240 credits at Level 5.

3. Programme structure and learning outcomes

(The structure for any part-time delivery should be presented separately in this section.)

<u>Programme Structure - LEVEL 4</u>					
Compulsory modules	Credit points	Optional modules	Credit points	Is module compensatable?	Semester runs in
Introduction to Journalism and Documentary Practice	20			Yes	1
Production Skills 1: Camera, Audio and Lighting	20			Yes	1&2
Production Skills 2: Postproduction Techniques	20			Yes	1&2
Marketing and Exhibition	20			Yes	2/1
Factual Sourcing	20			Yes	1/2
Media Law and Ethics	20			Yes	1/2

Intended learning outcomes at Level 4 are listed below:

<u>Learning Outcomes – LEVEL 4</u>	
3A. Knowledge and understanding	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>A1: Identify and demonstrate knowledge of some of the theories, concepts and principles underpinning the factual media industry.</p> <p>A2: Understand and explain the impact of new developments in the factual media industry.</p> <p>A3: Demonstrate knowledge of planning and implementation processes within industry projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching and Learning Methods: Lectures, tutor directed tutorials, supervised practical sessions, student led seminars and use of the College's Virtual Learning Environment. • Assessment Methods: Coursework related to assignments, case studies and projects, presentations, practical observation and project reports.
3B. Cognitive skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>B1: Apply some theories, principles and concepts to situations within the factual media industry.</p> <p>B2: Apply a range of study skills and research techniques demonstrating the ability to interpret data and undertake independent research.</p>	<p>Learning and Teaching Methods: Students are challenged to develop their cognitive skills by developing arguments, strategies and hypotheses based upon their research. They will explore diverse topics and develop a critical analysis of their findings.</p> <p>Intellectual qualities are developed mainly through lectures, seminars, tutorials, coursework, assignments, experimental work and projects.</p> <p>Students will be presented with briefs (both live and simulated) that utilises Project Based Learning, a student centred pedagogy.</p>

3B. Cognitive skills

At Level 4, students will be introduced to fundamental practices across the industry that they will further build on and analyse at Level 5.

Assessment Methods:

Students will be assessed on their ability to critique and evaluate research. They will develop their knowledge using independent thinking skills and produce recommendations based upon and justified through supporting literature.

The assessment focuses on the coursework submissions, end of semester presentations, essays and project reports. Some of these skills are assessed in formal presentations.

Assessment strategies offer students clear guidance concerning future development. Self reflection and peer evaluation constitute an important part of formative assessment.

3C. Practical and professional skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>C1: Undertake practical activities using technical skills and procedures whilst working as a manager/team member.</p> <p>C2: Demonstrate practical/professional skills with due regard for procedures, concepts and safe working practices.</p> <p>C3: Undertake independent research and effectively communicate findings.</p> <p>C4: Design, plan and produce content in a variety of industry contexts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching and Learning Methods: Lectures, tutor directed tutorials, student led seminars, supervised practical sessions and self directed learning employing and use of the College's Virtual Learning Environment. • Assessment Methods: Coursework related to assignments, case studies and projects, written unseen examinations, presentations, practical examination/observation and project reports. • Application of hardware and software in an industry context. • Guest speakers/workshops to reflect on industry standards, procedures, best practice and current trends. • Use of project based activities and case studies to build on knowledge and apply theoretical concepts and practical skills to real life situations.
3D. Key/transferable skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>D1: Develop effective written and oral communication and numerical skills including the application of IT.</p> <p>D2: Use organisation skills (including task, time management and problem solving) both individually and in groups.</p>	<p>Learning and Teaching Methods: Transferable and fundamental skills are delivered throughout the course, i.e., lectures, coursework assignments. The teaching and learning of ICT skills will be within the course structure. Workshops include demonstrations such as ICT skills, PowerPoint and other I.T. applications,</p>

3D. Key/transferable skills	
<p>D3: Develop the ability to self appraise and reflect on practice in order to improve future performance.</p> <p>D4: Demonstrate personal and interpersonal skills such as effective planning, organising, time management and teamwork.</p>	<p>presentations and library research skills. Other learning and teaching methodologies include team teaching, demonstration and peer learning.</p> <p>Workshops with lecturing staff and visiting professionals will support students with research, academic writing and referencing throughout the year. Teaching and learning will be contextualised with social, ethical and legal relevance to the industry. Collaboration and communication techniques will be utilised through all learning and teaching activities, group discussions and simulations, project based learning activities, report writing and blended and virtual learning platforms.</p> <p>Over the course of the programme, students are provided with essential information which they must then research, analyse and interpret. Students will undertake further independent reading to broaden the understanding of specific problems and design principles. This is designed to stretch and challenge students and develop their ability at Level 4 as preparation for Level 5. Creative thinking and critical analysis are engendered in every aspect of the programme and will be further fostered and encouraged through lecturer mentoring weekly. Discussion and critiques support the development of problem resolution at a higher intellectual level.</p> <p>Assessment Methods: Students will develop subject knowledge from data examination and enhance their understanding of assessments. Throughout the programme students will develop digital literacy by completing assessments and presentations using suitable methods.</p>

3D. Key/transerable skills	
	<p>The testing of learner knowledge is principally through coursework assignments, reports, online assessment, experimental reports and class tests. Assessment of teamwork is through submission of teamwork tasks, student/peer and self assessment and oral presentations.</p> <p>Assessment strategies offer students clear guidance regarding future development. Self reflection and peer evaluation constitute an essential part of formative assessment.</p>

Exit Award: Certificate in Higher Education in Journalism and Documentary Production. (Cert.HE)

<u>Programme Structure - LEVEL 5</u>					
Compulsory modules	Credit points	Optional modules	Credit points	Is module compensatable?	Semester runs in
Documentary Project	20			Yes	1
Journalism Project	20			Yes	1
Applied News Production	20			Yes	1/2
Documentary Development: Narrative Storytelling in Factual Productions	20			Yes	1/2
Work Based Learning	40			No	1/2

Intended learning outcomes at Level 5 are listed below:

<u>Learning Outcomes – LEVEL 5</u>	
3A. Knowledge and understanding	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>A1: Evaluate theories, concepts and principles within Journalism and Documentary Production Practice.</p> <p>A2: Be able to apply the processes and procedures for effective planning, operation and management within Journalism and Documentary Production context.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching and Learning Methods: Lectures, tutor directed tutorials, supervised practical sessions, student led seminars and use of the College's Virtual Learning Environment.

<u>Learning Outcomes – LEVEL 5</u>	
3A. Knowledge and understanding	
<p>A3: Demonstrate detailed knowledge of content creation within online platforms.</p> <p>A4: Develop personal performance in a range of technical and managerial skills and integrate knowledge, skills and practices required for careers in the industry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Methods: Coursework related to assignments, case studies and projects, written unseen examinations, open book assessments, presentations, practical examination/observation and project reports.
3B. Cognitive skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>B1: Exercise critical thinking in the analysis of a range of appropriate theories, principles and concepts to situations within Journalism and Documentary production.</p> <p>B2: Develop the ability to provide reasoned analysis of current practices in the sector in order to initiate improvement.</p> <p>B3: Locate, extract and analyse data from multiple sources, including the appropriate acknowledgement and referencing of sources.</p>	<p>Learning and Teaching Methods:</p> <p>These intellectual cognitive skills are developed through lectures, seminars, tutorials or practical based activities, independent project work and work based learning activities.</p> <p>As with Level 4, students will be presented with briefs however, at Level 5, project based Learning will move to more complex industry defined problems, forcing the students to develop their critical thinking, creativity and communication skills.</p>

3B. Cognitive skills	
<p>B4: Develop the ability to critically assess and reflect on own performance and peer feedback, providing constructive feedback where needed.</p>	<p>At Level 5, WBL will guide the students to develop more critical awareness, enabling students to formulate ideas and confidently research and experiment to strengthen their outcomes.</p> <p>Assessment Methods:</p> <p>The formative and summative assessment focuses on coursework submissions, essays and project reports. Other assessment evidence may be generated using Log Books / Diary / Digital Diary, Reflective Journals, A/V evidence and completed products.</p> <p>Assessment strategies offer students clear guidance regarding future development. Self reflection and peer evaluation constitute an important part of formative assessment.</p> <p>Where students solve real life problems, cognitive skills are assessed via pitching and presenting ideas and peer feedback.</p>
3C. Practical and professional skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>C1: Plan, design and execute practical activities using techniques and procedures appropriate to the factual media industry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching and Learning Methods: Lectures, tutor directed tutorials, student led seminars, supervised practical sessions and self directed learning employing study packs and use of the College's Virtual Learning Environment.

3C. Practical and professional skills	
<p>C2: Demonstrate practical/professional skills within a team setting - adapting and developing new skills and procedures for new situations whilst developing the product.</p> <p>C3: Plan, design and create products using appropriate media and digital formats.</p> <p>C4: Employ creative techniques to business related problems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Methods: Coursework related to assignments, case studies and projects, written unseen examinations, open book assessments, presentations, practical examination/observation and project reports. • Application and use of online virtual labs that enable students to construct real life scenarios to experiment and test out practical approaches to simulate advanced network configurations. • Site visits to organisation and companies to reflect on industry standards, procedures, best practice and current trends. • Use of project based module and case studies to build on knowledge and apply theoretical concepts and practical skills to real life situations.
3D. Key/transferable skills	
Learning outcomes:	Learning and teaching strategy/ assessment methods
<p>D1: Identify key problem areas and choose appropriate tools and methods, numeracy and literacy skills, data and information for their resolution.</p> <p>D2: Interact effectively within a team, giving and receiving information and ideas and modifying response where appropriate, to develop professional working relationships.</p>	<p>Learning and Teaching Methods:</p> <p>Key/transferable skills will be developed through lectures, seminars and tutorials. This also includes ICT skills, information management, library research skills and preparation for placement activities. All transferable skills apply to theoretical disciplines, practical and work based activities. Other learning and teaching methodologies include team teaching, demonstration and peer learning.</p>

3D. Key/transferable skills	
<p>D3: Demonstrate personal and interpersonal skills such as the effective planning, organising, management of and responsibility for contributing to the bringing of projects to completion on time either independently or as a team member.</p> <p>D4: Evaluate own strengths and weaknesses, challenge received opinion and develop own criteria and judgement.</p>	<p>Students will be provided with key information which they will research, analyse and interpret, then seek out further reading where they must independently broaden their understanding of specific problems and creative design principles. The fundamental design of the programme is to stretch students, develop their skills at Level 5 as preparation for Level 6.</p> <p>Work Based Learning at Level 5 enable students to work in industry (or simulated) contexts driving them to become effective in their time management, taking responsibility for their work and managing working with others in a professional environment.</p> <p>Creative thinking and critical analysis are applied to all aspects of the programme and will be further fostered and encouraged through lecturer mentoring weekly. Discussion and critiques support the development of problem resolution at a higher intellectual level. At Level 5, students are encouraged to develop their self reflection and set targets with the tutor, reflecting on feedback and responding to this.</p> <p>Assessment Methods:</p> <p>Formative and summative assessments will be shown through coursework submissions, essays and project reports. Other assessment evidence may be generated using Logbooks / Diary / Digital Diary, Reflective Journals, A/V evidence and completed products, peer and supervisory review/evaluation.</p>

Annexe 1: Curriculum map

Annexe 2: Curriculum mapping against the apprenticeship standard or framework
(delete if not required.)

Annexe 3: Notes on completing the OU programme specification template

Annexe 1 - Curriculum map **A5, A6, B5 B6, B7, B8, C5,C6,C7,C8, D5, D6, D7 NOT APPLICABLE**

This table indicates which study units assume responsibility for delivering (shaded) and assessing (✓) particular programme learning outcomes.

Level	Study module/unit	Programme outcomes																																
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7		
4	Introduction to Journalism and Documentary Practices	x		x						x	x							x	x		x					x	x	x						
	Production Skills 1 – Camera, Audio and Lighting		x	x						x	x							x	x		x					x	x	x						
	Production Skills 2 – Post-Production Techniques	x	x								x							x	x	x						x		x	x					
	Marketing and Exhibition	x	x	x						x	x							x		x	x					x		x						
	Factual Sourcing	x		x						x	x							x	x	x	x					x				x				
	Media Law and Ethics	x	x	x						x	x							x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x					

Level	Study module/unit	Programme outcomes																																
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7		
5	Digital Documentary Project	x	x		x					x		x	x					x	x	x	x					x		x	x					
	Documentary Development: Narrative Storytelling in Factual Production			x	x					x			x					x		x						x	x		x					
	Journalism Project	x	x		x					x	x	x	x						x	x	x						x		x					
	Applied News Production		x	x	x					x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x					
	Work based Learning	x	x		x					x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x					x	x	x	x					

Annexe 2: Notes on completing programme specification templates

- 1 - This programme specification should be mapped against the learning outcomes detailed in module specifications.
- 2 – The expectations regarding student achievement and attributes described by the learning outcome in section 3 must be appropriate to the level of the award within the **QAA frameworks for HE qualifications**: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/Pages/default.aspx>
- 3 – Learning outcomes must also reflect the detailed statements of graduate attributes set out in **QAA subject benchmark statements** that are relevant to the programme/award: <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/AssuringStandardsAndQuality/subject-guidance/Pages/Subject-benchmark-statements.aspx>
- 4 – In section 3, the learning and teaching methods deployed should enable the achievement of the full range of intended learning outcomes. Similarly, the choice of assessment methods in section 3 should enable students to demonstrate the achievement of related learning outcomes. Overall, assessment should cover the full range of learning outcomes.
- 5 - Where the programme contains validated **exit awards** (e.g. CertHE, DipHE, PGDip), learning outcomes must be clearly specified for each award.
- 6 - For programmes with distinctive study **routes or pathways** the specific rationale and learning outcomes for each route must be provided.
- 7 – Validated programmes delivered in **languages other than English** must have programme specifications both in English and the language of delivery.