

Diploma/BSc (Hons) Journalism (Minor: Economics/ Politics/ Digital Media) - Full Time - SH347

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

The programme aims to provide students with a sound academic background as well as practical skills in journalism – whether print, broadcast or online platforms. The programme will enable students to understand the role and importance of journalism in a changing media ecology; apply key theories in journalism and the media and to hone in their skills in newswriting as well as to practice audio and video production and editing. The programme also emphasizes the importance of journalism ethics and other essential values that frame the fields of journalism and the media.

The programme offers three fields of study, namely (i) Economics, (ii) Politics, (iii) Digital Media. Students will be required to choose their field of study within two weeks from the start of Semester 1 of Level 1. The offering of any field is subject to critical mass. The number of seats are limited for each minor.

Competencies and career opportunities

Job prospects for graduates exist in a range of formats including newswriting, digital reporting, audiovisual production and post-production and other opportunities related to the media industry. The internships in the programme would allow students to apply what has been learnt in the course and to get significant workplace experience.

Level 1 and 2 modules cover the fundamental topics related to journalism and the media. The modules aim to impart the foundational skills in the understanding and practice of journalism and media. Level 3 modules are more specialized modules as students would also undertake projects that would allow them to research the facets of journalism and the media.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, learners would be expected to

- know the key skills of traditional and new forms of journalism;
- understand and apply critical knowledge in journalism and the media;
- develop practical and research skills in journalism and the media;
- be able to work in the fields of journalism (radio, television, print or multimedia) or in any organisation where production of news content and relationship with the media are deemed relevant.

3. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

- Lectures, tutorials, practical work, case studies, team-work, problem-solving, role-play, simulations, guest lectures, field trips, research project, internships.
- Students will be required to do a fair amount of documenting, self-learning and experimenting under the guidance of their respective lecturers/tutors.

4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **General Entry Requirements**

As per General Entry Requirements for admission to the University.

- **Programme (Specific) Requirements**

Credit in English and French at 'O' Level and;

For the Diploma / BSc (Hons) Journalism (Minor: Economics)

"O" Level Pass in Mathematics

Note: Holders of the Diploma in Communication Studies or the Diploma in Journalism awarded by the University of Mauritius may be directly admitted in the third year of the programme. They will, however, be required to complete at least the specific modules relevant to their minor from Levels 1 and 2 of the current course structure which they have not yet completed.

5. PROGRAMME DURATION

	Normal (Years)	Maximum (Years)
Diploma	2	3
Degree	3	5

6. MINIMUM LCCS CREDITS REQUIRED FOR DEGREE AWARD

- **For each Academic Year:** As per University Regulations

- **For Degree Award: 218 LCCS Credits**

Breakdown as follows:

	COMMUNICAT- ION STUDIES (CORE MODULES)	Minor : Economics/ Politics/ Digital Media MODULES	INTERN- SHIP	STAT + LAW MODULE	RESEARCH PROJECT	Electives	TOTAL LCCS Credits
DEGREE	126	42	8 + 12	6 + 6	12	6	218
DIPLOMA	92	24	8	6 + 6	--	-	136

- **Exit points**

The student can exit the programme with a Diploma, as follows

- Students may exit with a Diploma in Journalism (Minor: Economics) after having earned 136 LCCS Credits;
- Students may exit with a Diploma in Journalism (Minor: Politics) after having earned 136 LCCS Credits;
- Students may exit with a Diploma in Journalism (Minor: Digital Media) after having earned 136 LCCS Credits.

7. ASSESSMENTS AND DEADLINES

Continuous Assessment: 50% + Examinations: 50%

or

Continuous Assessment: 40% + Examinations: 60%

Each module can either be taught in one semester only (semester module) or throughout the two semesters (yearly module).

Each module will be assessed over 100 marks with details as follows (unless otherwise specified):

Assessment will be based on a written examination of 2 to 3-hour duration (normally a paper of hour duration for modules carrying less or equal to 6 LCCS credits, and 3 hour paper for modules carrying 12 LCCS credits) and on continuous assessment done during the semester or year.

The continuous assessment will count for 40% - 50% of the overall percentage mark of the module, except for a Programme where the structure makes for other specific provision(s) or where certain modules will be marked solely on a continuous assessment basis.

Continuous assessment may be based on laboratory work, seminars and/or assignments and should include at least two (2) assignments/tests per module.

An overall total of 40% for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass the modules, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous assessment and written examination.

For modules which are assessed on a 100% Continuous Assessment basis, students are required to keep track of all assignments completed in a portfolio to enable monitoring (including presentations, projects, portfolios, class tests, etc.) for adequate moderation.

Submission Deadline for Research Project

As per University regulation, the Research Project should be submitted on the last working day of March of the academic year by 4.00 pm at latest and students will be required to upload their projects through the Turnitin platform. The allocation of supervisions will be completed by the end of Level 2 of the programme.

8. LIST OF MODULES

Code	Module name	L*/T*/P* (Contact hours)	Self-Study	Other Learnings Hrs	LCCS credits
Level 1					
COMS 1005(1)	Introduction to Media and Communication	30	60	90	6
COMS 1104(1)	Politics, Society and Culture in Mauritius	30	60	90	6
COMS 1002Y(1)	Performance Communication Skills	60	120	180	12
COMS 1008Y(1)	Written Skills in English	30	60	90	6
COMS 1009Y(1)	Written Skills in French	30	60	90	6
COMS 1007(1)	Principles of Journalism	30	60	90	6
COMS 2007(3)	Media and Ethics	30	60	90	6
STAT 1201(1)	Statistics for Media and Communication	30	60	90	6
Economics module					
ECON 1001Y(1)	Fundamental of Economics	60	120	180	12
Politics modules					
POLI 1201(1)	Introduction to Political Theory	30	60	90	6
POLI 1102(1)	Political and Constitutional Development of Mauritius	30	60	90	6
Digital Media modules					
COMS 1105(1)	Digital Imaging	30	60	90	6
COMS 1205(1)	Designing for the Web	30	60	90	6
Level 2					
COMS 2105(3)	Media: A Critical Approach	30	60	90	6
COMS 2104(3)	Reporting and Writing	30	60	90	6
COMS 2101(3)	Desktop Publishing	30	60	90	6
COMS 2201(3)	Development Communication	30	60	90	6
COMS 3004(5)	Research Methods in Communication	30	60	90	6
COMS 2014Y(3)	Broadcast & Digital Reporting	60	90	90	8
COMS 2108(3)	Data Sourcing, Analysis & Visualisation	30	60	90	6
LAWS 3211(1)	Law Relating to the Media	30	60	90	6
COMS 2015Y(3)	Internship 1				8
Economics modules					
ECON 2179(3)	Economics for Journalists	30	60	90	6
ECON 2204(3)	Macroeconomic Environment and Policy	30	60	90	6
Politics modules					
POLI 2206(3)	Contemporary Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	30	60	90	6
POLI 2105(3)	Comparative Politics	30	60	90	6
Digital Media modules					
COMS 2110(3)	Website Development	30	60	90	6
COMS 2005(3)	Audio-visual Production	30	60	90	6

Level 3					
COMS 3102(5)	Intercultural Communication	30	60	90	6
COMS 4101(5)	New Forms of Media	30	60	90	6
COMS 3202(5)	Communication & Media: A Historical Perspective	30	60	90	6
COMS 4201(5)	Political Communication: A Critical Approach	30	60	90	6
COMS 3011Y(5)	Investigative & Data-Driven Journalism	90	90	120	10
COMS 3010Y(5)	Internship 2				12
COMS 3000(5)	Work Report for Journalists				10
COMS 4002(5)	Research Project				12
	Electives				
COMS 3205(5)	Media Management	30	60	90	6
COMS 3009(5)	Aspects of Film Studies	30	60	90	6
COMS 3215(5)	Contemporary Issues in Society	30	60	90	6
	Economics modules				
ECON 3101(5)	The Mauritian Economic Environment	30	60	90	6
ECON 3203(5)	Economics of Traditional and New Media	30	60	90	6
STAT 3103(5)	Economics and Social Statistics	30	60	90	6
	Politics modules				
POLI 3005Y(5)	Democracy and Good Governance	60	120	180	12
POLI 3104(5)	Contemporary World Politics	30	60	90	6
	Digital Media Modules				
COMS 3104(5)	Audio-Visual Post-Production	30	60	90	6
COMS 3204(5)	Digital Journalism	30	60	90	6
ECON 3203(5)	Economics of Traditional and New Media	30	60	90	6

Note:

1. Contact hours= Lectures, T=Tutorials, P=Practicals
2. Offering of electives would be subject to availability of resources and critical mass.

9. PROGRAMME PLAN

LEVEL 1

CODE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	LCCS Credits
COMS 1005(1)	Introduction to Media and Communication ¹	3+0	6
COMS 1104(1)	Politics, Society and Culture in Mauritius ¹	3+0	6
COMS 1002Y(1)	Performance Communication Skills*	3+0	12
COMS 1008Y(1)	Written Skills in English	1½+0	6
COMS 1009Y(1)	Written Skills in French	1½+0	6
COMS 1007(1)	Principles of Journalism ^{2*}	2+2	6
COMS 2007(3)	Media and Ethics ²	3+0	6
STAT 1201(1)	Statistics for Media and Communication ²	3+0	6
ECONOMICS MODULES			
ECON 1001Y(1)	Fundamentals of Economics	3+0	12
POLITICS MODULES			
POLI 1201(1)	Introduction to Political Theory ²	3+0	6
POLI 1102(1)	Political and Constitutional Development of Mauritius ¹	3+0	6
DIGITAL MEDIA MODULES			
COMS 1105(1)	Digital Imaging ^{1**}	2+2	6
COMS 1205(1)	Designing for the Web ^{2*}	2+2	6
Sub-Total of number of LCCS credits in Level 1			66

LEVEL 2

CODE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	LCCS Credits
COMS 2105(3)	Media: A Critical Approach ¹	3+0	6
COMS 2104(3)	Reporting and Writing ^{1*}	2+2	6
COMS 2101(3)	Desktop Publishing ^{1**}	1+4	6
COMS 2201(3)	Development Communication ²	3+0	6
COMS 3004 (5)	Research Methods in Communication ²	3+0	6
COMS 2014Y(3)	Broadcast & Digital Reporting**	1+4	8
COMS 2108(3)	Data Sourcing, Analysis & Visualisation ^{1*}	3+0	6
LAWS 3211(5)	Law Relating to the Media ²	3+0	6
COMS 2015Y(3)	INTERNSHIP 1	(2 months)	8

ECONOMICS MODULES			
ECON 2179(3)	Economics for Journalists ¹	3+0	6
ECON 2204(3)	Macroeconomic Environment and Policy ²	3+0	6
POLITICS MODULES			
POLI 2206(3)	Contemporary Southern Africa and Indian Ocean ²	3+0	6
POLI 2105(3)	Comparative Politics ¹	3+0	6
DIGITAL MEDIA MODULES			
COMS 2110(3)	Website Development ^{1*}	2+2	6
COMS 2005(3)	Audiovisual Production ^{2***}	2+2	6
	Sub-Total of number of LCCS credits in Level 2		70

LEVEL 3

CODE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	LCCS Credits
COMS 3102(5)	Intercultural Communication ¹	3+0	6
COMS 4101(5)	New Forms of Media ^{1*}	3+0	6
COMS 3202(5)	Communication & Media: A Historical Perspective ²	3+0	6
COMS 4201(5)	Political Communication: A Critical Approach ²	3+0	6
COMS 3011Y(5)	Investigative & Data-Driven Journalism*	3+0	10
COMS 3010Y(5)	INTERNSHIP 2	(3 months)	12
	OR		
COMS 3000 (5)	Work Report for Journalists***	-	10
COMS 4002(5)	Research Project	-	12
CHOOSE ONE OR ANY OTHER MODULE ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT			
ELECTIVES			
COMS 3205(5)	Media Management ²	3+0	6
COMS 3009(5)	Aspects of Film Studies**	1+4	6
COMS 3215(5)	Contemporary Issues in Society	3+0	6
ECONOMICS MODULES			
ECON 3101(5)	The Mauritian Economic Environment ¹	3+0	6
ECON 3203(5)	Economics of Traditional and New Media ²	3+0	6
STAT 3103(5)	Economics and Social Statistics ¹	3+0	6

POLITICS MODULES			
POLI 3005Y(5)	Democracy and Good Governance	3+0	12
POLI 3104(5)	Contemporary World Politics ¹	3+0	6
DIGITAL MEDIA MODULES			
COMS 3104(5)	Audio-visual Post-production ^{1**}	1+4	6
COMS 3204(5)	Digital Journalism ^{2**}	2+2	6
ECON 3203(5)	Economics of Traditional and New Media ²	3+0	6
Sub-Total of number of LCCS credits in Level 3			82

Notes

a) The offering of electives is subject to the availability of resources and critical mass. The Department may decide to offer additional electives. Electives may be taken from other departments or faculties subject to the approval of the programme coordinator.

b) ¹ Modules taught and assessed at the end of semester 1

c) ² Modules taught and examined in Semester 2

d) * Module assessed 50% by continuous assessment

e) ** Module assessed 100% by continuous assessment

f) A core module or an elective scheduled for a specific semester may be offered in another semester, subject to approval by Faculty Board.

g) Specific modules are taught and examined partly or wholly in French. Students are informed at the beginning of the semester by the tutor.

i) *** Note for Work Report: Students having at least one-year relevant experience in their area of specialisation may be allowed to submit a Work Report for assessment in replacement of the two work placements (Work Placement I and Work Placement II) which carry 20 credits in all. However, eligible students who choose this option will also have to complete elective modules upon approval of the Unit in order to compensate for the 10 remaining credits. An interview concerning the work experience and report may be carried out if deemed necessary by the Department.

26 May 2020