Module Descriptor

Title	News: An International Perspective		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	JOUR10006	**SCQF Level**	10
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	Dr Margaret Hughes		

Summary of Module

This module will explore how the UK news media reports on world affairs and events, and look at how the foreign news media reports on the UK.

The aim of the module is to provide students with an opportunity to critically analyse the roles and responsibilities of journalists, news organisations and politicians in how international news is gathered and presented.

It will provide students with the opportunity to explore how news is created and presented in a range of international settings and will look at issues around regulation and operation across the globe.

It will also examine how the news media internationally acts as gatekeepers who set the agenda for public and political debate on a range of issues related to how we see the world. It will seek to explore the challenges presented by governmental and corporate interference in news and how news is told through a range of political, economic, social and cultural lenses.

The module builds on advanced research and presentation skills already developed in order to present informed, critical discussion and debate of topical, and sometimes controversial, issues that affect the practice of journalism from an international perspective.

Predominant teaching methods will be tutor-led lectures supported by tutorials and seminars. Students will examine the content of news media artefacts to explore and discuss dominant themes.

Students will produce a portfolio of journalistic content that explores the themes and issues covered, as well as submit an essay that focuses on theoretical perspectives.

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus[1] ☒	Hybrid[2] ☐	Online[3] ☐	Work -Based Learning[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☐	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Critically evaluate and discuss the key concepts, theories and principles surrounding the newsgathering and the presentation of news content from an international perspective.
L2	Critically evaluate a range of information resources relevant to the study of news from an international perspective.
L3	Produce a portfolio of journalistic content to a high professional standard that explores themes relevant to international news.
L4	
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 10** Critical understanding of how foreign news is gathered, framed and disseminated by the UK news media. Critical evaluation and analysis of UK news media coverage of international events, politics and culture. Critically evaluating and analyzing the news media from an international perspective.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10**

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

	Demonstrating a broad and integrated understanding of a wide range of classical and contemporary concepts and theories relevant to an understanding of the news media in an international context. Demonstrate the ability to engage in discussion and debate of key areas related to the news, such as models of media effects and theoretical perspectives on the news media. Demonstrating originality in the creation of structured debate.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Retrieving a variety of primary and secondary sources relating to the study of the news media in the UK and internationally. Using and developing a range of enhanced research and inquiry skills and practices associated with theoretical analyses, including engaging with and analysing a range of texts and electronic sources in the production of assessments relating to the news media. Working independently with clarity of intellectual thought.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Communicating complex arguments and ideas effectively in both oral and written form through informal class discussions, engagement and debates, communication via the VLE and through the production of assessment Producing journalistic artefacts to a high professional standard as part of assessments Use a range of IT applications to support and enhance work Engaging with VLE to access course calendar and module material.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Exercising autonomy and initiative while fulfilling assessment criteria through research and the production of the assessment. Engaging with peers, taking into account own and others' roles and responsibilities in relation to preparation and discussion in seminar classes. Developing and extending time management skills in the preparation for seminars and assessments.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	12
Independent Study	164
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources

The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

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Chomsky, N. and Hermann, E.S., (2010) Manufacturing Consent: the Political Economy of the Mass Media. Vintage

Klein, N. (2014), The Shock Doctrine. Penguin

McQuail, D. (2010). Mass Communication Theory. Sage Publications

McQuail, D (2013). Journalism and Society. Sage Publications

Powers, M. (2018) NGOs as Newsmakers: The Changing Landscape of International News (Reuters Institute Global Journalism Series), Columbia University Press

Journals

British Journalism Review

European Journal of Communication

Journalism

Journalism Practice

Journalism Studies

Digital Journalism

Media, Culture and Society

Scottish Affairs

Journal of Political Communication

Political Quarterly

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:** Attendance at all classes & seminars; engagement in group & individual in-class activities.

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code. In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Arts Media**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Arts & Media
Moderator	Dr Kenneth Pratt
External Examiner	Dr Fiona McKay
Accreditation Details	N/A
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	**No**
Changes / Version Number	1/3

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
L/O 3) A portfolio of digital journalistic content exploring news in an international context (50% of total mark)
Assessment 2
An essay that critically analyses and evaluates the range of theories around international news media (LOs 1 & 2) – 50% of total mark
Assessment 3

(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.

(ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Portfolio	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	50%	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Essay	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐	50%	0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
External examiner updated	Sept 24	M Hughes
Moderator updated	March 26	M Hughes