

FIRST SEMESTER		SECOND SEMESTER	
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES		THE DIGITAL JOURNALIST AT WORK IN THE WORLD	SPECIALISED JOURNALISM



PGDIP JMS CO-ORDINATOR

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TIMES AND VENUES

Times and venues for each course will be announced during the first week of each term.

POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES (PGDIP JMS)

The Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism and Media Studies is called *Journalism Now* and aims to prepare students for careers as critical and skilled journalists. By the end of the course, students should have a portfolio of journalistic work across a range of platforms which showcases a diversity of story approach and format. This work (some of which may have been published) should also demonstrate aspects of the critical thinking which underpins all study undertaken in the School of Journalism and Media Studies. To achieve this dual aim, the coursework demonstrates a mode of thinking and being known as praxis, in which production and theory are integrally conceived and created. To this end, it may not be superficially discernible which parts of the coursework are 'journalism' and which parts are 'media studies' as both are indispensable to responsible journalism in 2018 in South Africa.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course consists of four academic terms across the calendar year.

Term 1 and Term 2 will introduce the student to journalism and media studies via exposure to and active participation in writing, editing, research, photography, audio, video, design and social media. In the course of these two terms, students will practice journalism in a range of formats (e.g. news, feature, analysis) and across a range of beats (e.g. health, education, arts, politics). Ethics is a core foundational concept for this section of the course and for all that follows it.

Term 3 will be a period of consolidation. Skills will be refined, conceptual framing will be deepened, reporting will be extended and digital skills will be expanded. Mandatory community engagement will commence during this term in a project which aims to broaden the scope of intervention and students' individual experience. Mandatory

immersion in Grocott's Mail will provide students with a community publishing platform for their reporting and editing (TBC).

Term 4 will be a term in which students specialise in an area of journalism. The School offers a suite of options for senior students in this term. Choosing which option to pursue is governed either by a spirit of discovery (study an avenue new to you) or a desire to deepen (study an area you want to strengthen). The options offered vary every year and depend on the availability of staff and other resources.

Throughout all four terms, our work will centre on the core concepts of:

- Journalistic ethics
- Personal curiosity
- Professional creativity
- Collaborative learning
- Wide reading

Additional coursework requirements

- Vacation internship
- Student media participation

VACATION INTERNSHIP

Students undertake a minimum 40 hour internship (about a work week) in an approved journalism-related job during either their April, June or September vacation. Completion and evaluation of a vacation-based internship is required for Duly Performed (DP) purposes.

EVALUATION

This course is assessed via a suite of three bodies of work:

1. **A PORTFOLIO OF JOURNALISTIC PRODUCTION**
2. **A PORTFOLIO OF MEDIA STUDIES RESEARCH PAPERS, AND**
3. **A PORTFOLIO OF PRAXIS WRITING WHICH CRITICALLY REFLECTS ON DIVERSE EXPERIENCES**

Students must fulfil the Duly Performed requirements for each module of the programme, and gain a pass mark (50%) in each course to qualify for the postgraduate diploma.