



Making Sense of Journalism:

News Literacy Lessons for Smart News Audience (HUMS1810)

Introduction

With social media and a 24/7 news cycle, how do we — as news audience — make sense of what we hear and read? At a time when we are flooded with an abundance of information and disinformation, it is essential for each one of us to understand what journalism is and become a more discerning news consumer.

This course introduces you to the basic elements of journalism and how the journalistic process works from the viewpoint of news audience. It helps you recognise the differences between news and other types of media products. You will learn how to apply critical thinking skills when processing information from the media. By understanding how to evaluate and identify reliable information, you'll become a smarter news consumer with greater awareness about society around you and the issues we should be discussing.

Programme Type / Level

Media and Culture I Course (Level 3) ([Token-required](#))

Instructor(s)

Dr. Masato Kajimoto
(Assistant Professor, Journalism and Media Studies Centre, The University of Hong Kong)

Target Participants

- S2 to S6 HKAGE students only in 2019-20 school year
- Class size: 30
- Students should be able to make commitment, be responsible to oneself as well as to the world, and willing to discuss, elaborate, present their in-depth thoughts.

Medium of Instruction



English with English handouts

Certificate



E-Certificate will be awarded to participants who have:

- ❖ Attended **at least 5 sessions**; **AND**
- ❖ Completed all the assignments with satisfactory performance

Intended Learning Outcomes



Upon completion of the programme, participants should be able to:

1. Analyse news stories and their presentation critically;
2. Distinguish the difference between news and opinion; between assertion and verification; between evidence and inference; and between media bias and audience bias;
3. Discuss how technical aspects of photography and videography determine and alter news storytelling;
4. Identify the social implications of information dissemination and the roles journalists and other information purveyors play.

Screening



This programme is Programmes with No Screening

(After May 4)

First-come, first served.

There are no screening questions, written test or other screening methods for this type of programmes.

- Student members can select up to 5 programmes from a list of selection. Applicants have to state the priority when submitting the application. (1st priority, 2nd priority, 3rd priority, etc). 1 token is required for each programme
(For programme list, please refer to the issue 18 of Gifted Gateway ([click here](#)));
- Application can only be submitted once. Once it is submitted, the priority and the programme selection cannot be changed;
- If a student member removes a programme from the application before the application deadline by withdrawal, the choice priority will remain unchanged. (For example: A student has selected three programmes and removed the programme with the 1st priority from the application. The choices of 2nd and 3rd priority will remain unchanged with no promotion in priority.);

- We will select the students based on the student's choice of priorities and a randomly generated selection by the computer system. If there is time clash between the applied programme and other programmes with offer, HKAGE will consider if the application will be accepted;
- Priority will be given to student members who have not completed the applied programmes;
- Student members should avoid applying programmes with time clash;
- The decision of HKAGE on the result of selection should be final.

Application
Deadline

1st batch: 23 Apr 2020, 12:00 n.n.
2nd batch: 15 May 2020, 12:00 n.n.

Application Result
Release Date

1st batch: 29 Apr 2020
2nd batch: N/A

Student members may withdraw from the programme on or before the deadline. Otherwise, the token will be deducted.

Schedule



Session	Date	Time	Content	Venue
1	26 Aug Cancelled	10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is news? What makes journalism different? ● Misinformation, disinformation, mal-information 	Room 403
2		2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Who makes news? Who decides? "News values" 	
3	27 Aug Cancelled	10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is truth? Evidence, accuracy and fairness 	
4		2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Says who? Source analysis, anonymity and credibility 	
5	28 Aug Cancelled	10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is bias? Are all opinions biases? Image in news. Is seeing believing? 	
6		2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Verification technique and final presentation 	

Enquiries



For enquiries, please contact us at 3940 0101, after language selection, press "1".

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