

## DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM

Dip (Journalism) - NQF Level 6 (360 credits)

Qualification code: DPJR20

SAQA ID: 111495, CHE NUMBER: H/H16/E115CAN

Campus where offered:

Soshanguve North Campus

### REMARKS

a. *Admission requirement(s) and selection criteria:*

• **FOR APPLICANTS WITH A SENIOR CERTIFICATE OBTAINED BEFORE 2008:**

**Admission requirement(s):**

A Senior Certificate or an equivalent qualification with a D symbol at Higher Grade or a C symbol at Standard Grade for English.

**Recommended subjects:**

Geography, History, a third language and any art-related subject.

**Selection criteria:**

To be considered for this qualification, applicants must have an Admission Point Score (APS) of at least **24**.

• **FOR APPLICANTS WITH A NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE OBTAINED IN OR AFTER 2008:**

**Admission requirement(s):**

A National Senior Certificate with a bachelor's degree or a diploma endorsement, or an equivalent qualification, with an achievement level of at least 4 for English (home language or first additional language).

**Recommended subjects:**

Geography, History, a third language and any art-related subject.

**Selection criteria:**

To be considered for this qualification, applicants must have an Admission Point Score (APS) of at least **24** (excluding Life Orientation).

• **FOR APPLICANTS WITH A NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) AT NQF LEVEL 4:**

**Admission requirement(s):**

A National Certificate (Vocational) at NQF Level 4 with a bachelor's degree or a diploma endorsement, with at least 50% for English (home language or first additional language and 40% for Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy, 40% for Life Orientation (excluded for APS calculation) and 50% for any other three compulsory vocational subjects.

**Selection criteria:**

To be considered for this qualification, applicants must have an Admission Point Score (APS) of at least **24** (excluding Life Orientation).

b. *Assessment procedure(s):*

Admission is based on APS score, a selection test and a personal interview. The APS will contribute 40%, the selection test will contribute 30%, and the interview will contribute 30% of the final score.

- Preference will be given to applicants with a performance level of 5 or more in English.



- General knowledge and language proficiency are extremely important in journalism and special emphasis will therefore be placed on these aspects during selection.
- Applicants are advised to prepare themselves accordingly by, for example, reading books on journalism and the political system in South Africa, reading newspapers regularly and consulting professional journalists about the nature and requirements of the profession.
- All applicants should contact the Department of Journalism of the University by telephone, by August of the year preceding the year of proposed study, to make arrangements for selection.

During selection, applicants will be requested to present a portfolio of (informal) media output, showcasing the candidate's interest/ability in Journalism. This may include examples of freelance articles, essays, recordings of broadcast participation, and online presence such as blogs, FB-pages and Twitter.

Please take note that all completed applications received within the published due dates will be ranked. After consideration of the Departmental Student Enrolment Plan, only the top ranking applicants will be selected. Once a programme is full, a waiting list will be in place to provide an opportunity for applicants to fill places of those who did not register on time. Applicants will be informed of their status per official letter from the Office of the Registrar, alternatively, they can check their application status on the TUT website, [www.tut.ac.za](http://www.tut.ac.za).

- c. *Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), equivalence and status:*  
See Chapter 30 of Students' Rules and Regulations.
- d. *Intake for the qualification:*  
January only.
- e. *Presentation:*  
First two years: day classes. Third year: block-mode classes offered on Saturday.
- f. *Minimum duration:*  
Three years.
- g. *Exclusion and readmission:*  
See Chapter 2 of Students' Rules and Regulations.
- h. *Media Practice - Work-Integrated Learning:*  
See Chapter 5 of Students' Rules and Regulations.

## CURRICULUM

### FIRST YEAR

CODE	MODULE	NQF-L	CREDIT	PREREQUISITE MODULE(S)
BJR105D	Broadcast Journalism I	(5)	(18)	
EJR105D	English for Journalists I	(5)	(15)	
IJR125D	ICT for Journalists (block module)	(5)	(2)	
LFS125X	Life Skills (block module)	(5)	(2)	
MCE105D	Mass Communication and Ethics I	(5)	(10)	
MEL105D	Media Law	(5)	(10)	
MJR105D	Multimedia Journalism I	(5)	(15)	
PHJ105D	Photojournalism	(5)	(10)	
PJR105D	Print Journalism I - News Writing and Reporting	(5)	(18)	
PLS105D	Political Studies I	(5)	(10)	



**plus one of the following electives (only AJR105D and SJR105D are offered in 2023):**

AJR105D	Afrikaans for Journalists I	(5)	(10)
FJR105D	French for Journalists I	(5)	(10)
GJR105D	German for Journalists I	(5)	(10)
SJR105D	Sotho (North) for Journalists I	(5)	(10)
ZJR105D	Zulu for Journalists I	(5)	(10)

**TOTAL CREDITS FOR THE FIRST YEAR: 120**

## SECOND YEAR

CODE	MODULE	NQF-L	CREDIT	PREREQUISITE MODULE(S)
AIJ206D	Advanced Reporting: Investigative Journalism	(6)	(10)	
BJR206D	Broadcast Journalism II	(6)	(20)	Broadcast Journalism I
EJR206D	English for Journalists II	(6)	(20)	English for Journalists I
MCE206D	Mass Communication and Ethics II	(6)	(12)	Mass Communication and Ethics I
MEE206D	Media Entrepreneurship	(6)	(8)	
MJR206D	Multimedia Journalism II	(6)	(15)	Multimedia Journalism I
PJR206D	Print Journalism II	(6)	(20)	Print Journalism I - News Writing and Reporting
PLS206D	Political Studies II	(6)	(15)	Political Studies I

**TOTAL CREDITS FOR THE SECOND YEAR: 120**

## THIRD YEAR

CODE	MODULE	NQF-L	CREDIT	PREREQUISITE MODULE(S)
RMM306D	Research for Mass Media	(6)	(10)	
SRP306D	Specialist Reporting	(6)	(20)	
WJR316D	Media Practice - Work-Integrated Learning (first- or second-semester module)	(6)	(60)	Broadcast Journalism II or Print Journalism II
WJR316R	Media Practice - Work-Integrated Learning (re-registration), (first- or second-semester module)	(6)	(0)	

**plus one of the following electives:**

BRM306D	Broadcast Media III	(6)	(30)	Broadcast Journalism II
PME306D	Print Media III	(6)	(30)	Print Journalism II

**TOTAL CREDITS FOR THE THIRD YEAR: 120**

**TOTAL CREDITS FOR THE QUALIFICATION: 360**



## MODULE INFORMATION (OVERVIEW OF SYLLABUS)

The syllabus content is subject to change to accommodate industry changes. Please note that a more detailed syllabus is available at the department or in the study guide that is applicable to a particular module. At time of publication, the syllabus content was defined as follows:

### A

#### **ADVANCED REPORTING: INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM (AIJ206D) CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT** *(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to conducting research for investigative stories by means of sourcing relevant information, writing techniques specifically used in investigative journalism reporting practices, producing investigative stories for a specific target audience, and the role of investigative reporting in society. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

#### **AFRIKAANS FOR JOURNALISTS I (AJR105D) 1 X 3-HOUR PAPER** *(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Language proficiency is one of the most important attributes of a good journalist. Various aspects of language usage, such as comprehension, vocabulary, punctuation, style, composition, speeches, reports and functional grammar, are covered. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

### B

#### **BROADCAST JOURNALISM I (BJR105D) CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT** *(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Radio and television broadcasting, mainly within a South African context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to: concepts and techniques of radio production and presenting, the South African radio broadcasting industry, radio broadcasting reporting skills, and the qualities of a radio journalist. (Total notional time: 180 hours)

#### **BROADCAST JOURNALISM II (BJR206D) CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT** *(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as writing for broadcast media, news production and current affairs for radio and television. Students should be able to find stories, research and package for radio and television news and current affairs programmes. They will also be able to use radio and television equipment with limited supervision. (Total notional time: 200 hours)

#### **BROADCAST MEDIA III (BRM306D) 1 X 3-HOUR PAPER** *(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Knowledge and skills acquired in Broadcast Journalism I and II to put together in-depth broadcast media related products such as radio and television documentaries, and feature- and magazine programmes. It will further prepare them for the broadcast online multimedia platforms. (Total notional time: 300 hours)

### E

#### **ENGLISH FOR JOURNALISTS I (EJR105D) 1 X 3-HOUR PAPER** *(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

This module focuses on grammar (specifically tenses, sentences and vocabulary), interpretation, writing skills, reading and understanding, mainly within a South African context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to communication theory, interpretation of texts, writing styles and vocabulary used by journalists. (Total notional time: 150 hours)



**ENGLISH FOR JOURNALISTS II (EJR206D)**  
*(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

**1 X 3-HOUR PAPER**

This module focuses on effective communication, both orally and in writing, with relevant audiences in the field of Journalism and the community at large, using appropriate structures, styles and graphical support, mainly within a South African context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to writing skills, communication audiences and purposes of communication, interviewing skills, profile writing, column and feature writing skills, and the use of satire as a specific writing style. (Total notional time: 200 hours)

**F**

**FRENCH FOR JOURNALISTS I (FJR105D)**  
*(Module custodian: Department of Applied Languages)*

**1 X 3-HOUR PAPER**

Language proficiency is one of the most important attributes of a good journalist. Various aspects of language usage, such as comprehension, vocabulary, punctuation, style, composition, speeches, reports and functional grammar, are covered. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

**G**

**GERMAN FOR JOURNALISTS I (GJR105D)**  
*(Module custodian: Department of Applied Languages)*

**1 X 3-HOUR PAPER**

Language proficiency is one of the most important attributes of a good journalist. Various aspects of language usage, such as comprehension, vocabulary, punctuation, style, composition, speeches, reports and functional grammar, are covered. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

**I**

**ICT FOR JOURNALISTS (IJR125D)**  
*(Module custodian: End User Computing Unit)*

**CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT**

A practical body of knowledge pertaining to computer skills. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to composition and operation of computers – including the keyboard, use of the internet for search and research purposes with special reference to finding topical and related news and information materials, use of MS Word, MS Excel and MS Power Point as tools to communicate and compose basic news, and use of photos and basic graphics to communicate with readers. (Total notional time: 20 hours)

**L**

**LIFE SKILLS (LFS125X)**  
*(Module custodian: Directorate of Student Development and Support)*

**CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT**

Personal, socio-emotional and academic skills development for students in higher education. This module includes: 1. Intra- and interpersonal skills (e.g. emotional intelligence, relationships, and conflict management); 2. General study skills (e.g. time management, goal setting, learning styles); 3. Health and wellness (e.g. HIV/AIDS, GBV issues, substance abuse); 4. Student life and adjustment (e.g. identity development, adjusting to a higher education environment); and 5. Financial management. (Total notional time: 20 hours)

**M**

**MASS COMMUNICATION AND ETHICS I (MCE105D)**  
*(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

**1 X 3-HOUR PAPER**

Fundamental elements of human communication and mass communication, a comprehensive overview of mass media, its history and evolution. This module also explores the development, structure and functions of both the traditional and new media, as well as the economics, culture and other aspects of the media. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to communication process and the mass media industries, the relationship among communication, mass communication, culture and audiences, trends in mass media, convergence and the digital distribution of media. (Total notional time: 100 hours)



**MASS COMMUNICATION AND ETHICS II (MCE206D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Fundamental theories of mass communication; conceptualisation, functions, effects and contributions to media and society. This module also explores the effect of mass media on contemporary life and society, both globally and within a South African context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to broad range of theories of mass communication used in the field of journalism, the effects of mass communication messages on society, media and culture, regulatory and ethical issues applied to both media and individual user of the digital mass media. (Total notional time: 120 hours)

**MEDIA ENTREPRENEURSHIP (MEE206D)****CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Basics knowledge in entrepreneurship and skills for conceptualising a business start-up. This module offers the fundamentals of launching a media company, including writing effective business plans, audience analysis, marketing and promotion, and positioning and commercialising company products within the contexts of media industries. Students will learn media production strategies attuned to the rapidly changing digital landscape, anticipating and taking advantage of new technologies and mediums within a South African context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to basic skills of media entrepreneurship and practical knowledge on how media start-ups are created. (Total notional time: 80 hours)

**MEDIA LAW (MEL105D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Law)**

Legal body of knowledge pertaining to media law practices mainly within the South African context. The module aims to enable students to identify relevant aspects of the law in relation to professional practice and to discuss the way media law structures professional journalistic practice within the South African media environment. Teaching activities will assist students in developing a deeper knowledge and understanding of the legal, ethical and regulatory framework within which journalism is practiced in South Africa. The aim is to enable students to apply their knowledge and understanding in the creation of journalistic content. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to the right to freedom of expression, defamation, access to information, court reporting, protection of sources, and statutory restrictions on reporting. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

**MEDIA PRACTICE - WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING (WJR316D/R)****WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Students find their own internship places using a database available on myTUTor and/or by applying for internships advertised by media and/or communication organisations. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to, the application of technical skills to produce media products, production skills to create media products within print, online and broadcast journalism contexts, the application of journalistic principles at a workplace, and professionalism and ethics. (Total notional time: 600 hours)

**MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM I (MJR105D)****CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Online and convergence journalism. This module is structured to give students an understanding of the Internet and how it can be utilised optimally by journalists and news organisations. It also introduces basic multimedia concepts and data journalism skills providing a strong foundation for the development of multimedia journalism skills. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate basic knowledge and skills in areas such as, but not limited to, online news publications, internet tools of journalism, data journalism basics and social media platforms. (Total notional time: 150 hours)

**MULTIMEDIA JOURNALISM II (MJR206D)****CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Online news production platforms, new media technologies and the impact it has on journalism. It also introduces students to new media theories and local and global digital journalism trends and newsroom practices. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to online news production, new media theories, digital media trends and social media news practices. (Total notional time: 150 hours)



**P****PHOTOJOURNALISM (PHJ105D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

A theoretical and practical body of knowledge pertaining to photojournalism. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to hard and general news photography, soft news photography, action and flash photography, photograph selection and basic editing, photo essays, and photojournalism ethics. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

**POLITICAL STUDIES I (PLS105D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Public Management)**

Body of knowledge pertaining to political studies mainly within the South African mass media context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to, the modern political state, governments, systems and regimes, political ideologies and democracy, the South African political system, and the relationship between journalism and politics. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

**POLITICAL STUDIES II (PLS206D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Public Management)**

Political science mainly within the South African political context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to, the South African political environment, governmental structures such as provincial and local government, policy making in South Africa and its foreign policies, and basic political reporting. (Total notional time: 150 hours)

**PRINT JOURNALISM I - NEWS WRITING AND REPORTING (PJR105D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

News reporting practices. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to conducting research for news stories by means of sourcing relevant information, writing techniques specifically used in reporting practices, producing news reports for a specific target audience, and the role of news reporting in society. (Total notional time: 180 hours)

**PRINT JOURNALISM II (PJR206D)****CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Print reporting practices and document design aesthetics mainly within the South African mass media context. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to writing techniques specifically used in print journalism reporting practices for community, daily and weekly newspapers, sub-editing of newspaper and online news articles, desktop publishing software, community newspaper layout and design aesthetics; and journalism theories that have an impact on print journalism media ownership, social media and citizen journalism. (Total notional time: 200 hours)

**PRINT MEDIA III (PME306D)****1 X 3-HOUR PAPER****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Print reporting practices and document design aesthetics. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to, advanced newspaper and magazine layout using desktop publishing software such as Adobe InDesign and Photoshop, media theories such as the relation between agenda-setting and media ownership, and media theories related to celebrity and entertainment journalism. (Total notional time: 300 hours)

**R****RESEARCH FOR MASS MEDIA (RMM306D)****CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT****(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)**

Theory and techniques of basic academic writing and research for the media. Students who completed the module successfully, will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in areas such as, but not limited to academic writing, editing and error analysis, and ethical considerations in writing academic texts. (Total notional time: 100 hours)



## S

### **SOTHO (NORTH) FOR JOURNALISTS I (SJR105D)**

**1 X 3-HOUR PAPER**

*(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Language proficiency is one of the most important attributes of a good journalist. Various aspects of language usage, such as comprehension, vocabulary, punctuation, style, composition, speeches, reports and functional grammar, are covered. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

### **SPECIALIST REPORTING (SRP306D)**

**CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT**

*(Module custodian: Department of Journalism)*

Knowledge, skills and applied competencies in areas such as, but not limited to, data journalism; business and economic reporting, feature writing, science journalism, political news analysis, and corporate journalism. (Total notional time: 200 hours)

## Z

### **ZULU FOR JOURNALISTS I (ZJR105D)**

**1 X 3-HOUR PAPER**

*(Module custodian: Department of Applied Languages)*

Language proficiency is one of the most important attributes of a good journalist. Various aspects of language usage, such as comprehension, vocabulary, punctuation, style, composition, speeches, reports and functional grammar, are covered. (Total notional time: 100 hours)

