

## **VADEMECUM**

### **International Semester Programme for the Inclusive Journalism Initiative**

## ***TV – Journalism - Foreign Reporting***

**at The Danish School of Media and Journalism – Aarhus**

**Spring semesters: January (week 5) - June (week 23) with IJI stipend students**

**Fall semesters: August (week 33) - December (week 51)**

This one-semester, full-time course (30 ECTS) offered every semester combines practical TV journalistic training with theoretical studies. Students will learn to produce TV stories in the style of Foreign correspondent reporting, which engage the senses through visual storytelling and reflective reporting. In addition, attendees will acquire analytical skills of TV/video stories through the use of academic theory and approaches.

The course requires students to reflect upon journalism activity and according to their own practice, including ethical and professional dilemmas. The students will foster skills in inclusive journalism and develop a critical understanding of the relevant social and media structures in the World.

The students will gain knowledge on contemporary world politics and focus on the major historical changes in the world, and specific in Europe.

The program offers a practical approach to journalism teaching and learning, and students have exclusive access to shooting and editing facilities throughout the course. A workshop with focus on the use of smartphones for recording/editing is included in the course. The journalistic use of social media in research and publishing TV/video stories will also be a part of the programme.

#### **At the end of the semester, students should:**

- Know the characteristics and demands of foreign correspondent TV-reporting
- Know how inclusive journalism can be the point of departure for production of current affairs packages for TV.
- Obtain increased knowledge of Danish politics, European affairs and World Politics in general, and understanding of the cultural differences and challenges, in particular.
- Master how to shoot with a digital HD camera and how to edit digitally using Final Cut Pro software. Learn about the possibilities for using a smartphone in reporting situations.
- Gain knowledge on the opportunities and ethical problems in using social media in research, and for publishing TV stories.
- Develop journalistic skills by working and studying in an international atmosphere that combines practical teaching with academic studies

- Obtain lifelong professional and personal bonds by being part of an international group of students from all over the world

Credits	ECTS
Introduction to Danish culture and technical TV tools	
News gathering and current affairs	5
The World and Europe	5
Inclusive journalism and social media	5
Foreign correspondent workshop	5
Final project (short-documentary and written exams)	10
TOTAL	30 ECTS

**Level:** Advanced undergraduate. All lectures, instruction and coaching are in English.

The course is a combination of practical TV production and lectures with theoretical content and approach. The practical TV assignments given become gradually more complex in content and form and are followed, in steps, by analytical academic lectures and more comprehensive written reflective deliveries. This theoretical-practical application of teaching and learning offers students clear progress in journalistic experience and theoretical knowledge as well as the possibility to develop individually through analysis and reflection.

**Grading:** The program is a full course load, semester program. All lectures, assignments, group work, coaching and evaluations of assignments are mandatory. All assignments are graded in ECTS grades: A - F.

### Literature:

Al Tompkins, *Aim for the Heart*, 2nd ed., CQ Press, 2012

Sheila Curran Bernard: *Documentary Storytelling, Creative Nonfiction on Screen*, 3rd ed. Focal Press, 2011

#### Articles:

- *Multiple Media Literacies*: Meyrowitz, Joshua 1998
- *Reporting Ethnicity and Religion* (chapter: 1-5) Media Diversity Institute, 2012
- *Mainstream media and the distribution of news in the age of social discovery*: Newman, Nic: Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, 2011
- *Redefining Foreign Correspondence*: Maxwell, John Hamilton and Jenner, Eric: in Journalism 2004 5: 301
- *How to Write a Documentary Script*: Das, Trisha, 1998

### The programme:

#### Course 1: Introduction program

##### Outline:

This course offers students an overall introduction to Denmark and Danish culture, politics and the media industry. Students are also offered Danish language courses. In addition, students are

given a 2-day practical technical course in using digital video camera and Final Cut Pro X video editing software.

The learning objective is to ensure that students receive an insight into political, economic, social and cultural aspects of Danish society and learn how to use video camera and editing software.

### **Topics**

- Introduction to the program
- Introduction to teaching methods, library and study facilities at DMJX
- Introduction to the Danish society and language
- Introduction to Danish politics and the welfare system including an excursion to the City Hall and Student House Aarhus
- Introduction to Danish media
- Introduction to, and exercises in, digital video camera and editing tools.

## **Course 2 : International Newsgathering and Current Affairs**

### **Outline**

The lectures for this course will focus on how to develop, and research, the good ideas for current affairs TV stories. Through analytical screenings the students will learn how to structure a TV story, and work with visuals, speak and sound.

The practical process in searching sources, see them in a critical perspective and make interviews is also a part of the course.

### **Aims**

International Newsgathering and current affairs theory and production aim to:

- Enable the students to master methods and achieve skills of research, production and analysis of Current Affairs TV stories.
- Introduce and discuss specific methods to gather information in social media
- Discuss and produce different genres of Current Affairs TV stories.
- Enhance cultural understanding and acceptance between world cultures.

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the module, students are expected to have achieved:

#### **Knowledge**

- Know the methodology of Current Affairs reporting: Different research techniques, source critique and story structures.
- Know how articulated pictures, visual storytelling and natural sound, contribute to information, fascination and identification.
- Know different forms of storytelling templates and the characteristics of the formulas.
- Know how to research and plan a Current Affairs TV story and the importance of thorough research and a journalistic ethical awareness of the workflow and its outcome.
- Know the main political structure and social system of Denmark/European Union.

#### **Understanding**

- Understand the characteristics of Current Affairs TV stories and criteria for choosing relevant angle, content and use of credible sources.

- Understand how to critically analyse sources and Current Affairs topics and how to develop an angle and focus that correspond to the target audience.
- Understand the different characteristics of information-based stories, eye-level stories and features.
- Understand different dramaturgical storytelling templates used in international TV reporting.
- Understand the importance of cooperation in TV production.

#### **Skills**

- The students will be able to choose and produce current affairs stories by using relevant news criteria and story structures
- They will gain methods in gathering news, facts and statements in and from foreign countries
- They will know how to find and use international news agencies and other sources in their collection of information
- Be able to conduct source critique and develop interview strategies according to different types of sources; experts, parties and consequence experts.
- Be able to produce Current Affairs TV stories that use the TV medium to its full potential.
- Be able to produce information based stories, eye-level stories and features.
- Know how to use a digital HD camera and how to edit with Final Cut Pro.
- Know how to perform on-camera and how to write and perform voice-overs/reporter's commentary.
- Know how to give professional feedback on other students' productions.
- Learn to cooperate across cultural and linguistic differences and learn how shared knowledge and productive work effort contribute to the journalistic product.

### **Course 3: The World and Europe**

Rapid changes in society in economics and in politics reshape the conditions for ordinary people in Europe and beyond. This series of lectures introduce some of these major changes in order to make them understandable and to prepare journalists for communicating them to audiences. Furthermore the lectures will focus on the ever closer European Union and its increasing role in relation to member states and to the outside world.

Headlines for the lectures include:

- Stereotypes - an introduction for journalists
- The World Agenda; the major issues in World Politics
- Globalization and foreign policy
- The European and Global Economic crises: Responses and consequences
- The Arab uprisings and the influence of media
- What is democracy – what is "European public sphere"?
- From Jean Monnet to Joschka Fischer. History of the EU and European integration.
- Who decides what in Europe? EU institutions and decision-making processes.
- Who decides what in Europe? Implications on news reporting and journalism.

#### **Aims**

The primary aims are to:

- introduce the theoretical and conceptual building blocks necessary for understanding rapid change

- prepare students to analyse and communicate these changes
- introduce the debate on "a European public sphere"
- introduce the history of the EU and the European integration process in order to train the students' ability to analyse the driving forces behind the integration process
- introduce the main EU institutions and decision-making processes in the EU
- prepare students to practice the elements of EU-reporting

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course students will be able to:

- identify major changes processes in both international society and Europe
- identify concepts of globalization and assess their importance
- know about EU-history and the main theories about European integration
- identify the role and the competence of main EU-institutions
- identify the role of EU versus member states in legislation and jurisdiction
- know about sources, source critique and research possibilities.

## **Course 4: Inclusive journalism and social media**

This course introduces the students to theoretical perspectives on the cultural production and representation of race, ethnicity and migrancy and discusses the role of the media and journalistic practice in such processes. It provides a context for critical thinking and discussion about multi-racial, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural issues associated within contemporary news media. The journalistic use of social media will be included in the practical exercises of this course.

### **Aims**

- to encourage student journalists to see, look at, report and reflect on the diversities in the society.
- to make the students focus on the diversity of sources and make them reflect on their selection of sources for TV stories
- to learn the students methods to use social media in a critical, journalistic way
- to discuss the ethical problems in using social media as sources for journalistic research and TV production

### **Learning outcomes**

#### **Skills**

The students should be able to

- use different methods for analysis and research the stereotypes of people of colour, various ethnic groups, refugees and immigrant communities in the mainstream news media.
- identify the influence, responsibility, and power of journalism in reporting diversity issues in TV stories
- make TV stories with focus on inclusive journalism
- learn how to use social media in research for news and for publishing TV stories

## Course 5: Foreign Correspondent workshop

### Outline

The role as a foreign correspondent is rapidly changing. Cuts in media budgets, and easy accessible technology have had great influence on the distribution of foreign news. The lectures will introduce the different ways of working as a foreign correspondent. The students will gain knowledge on ways of production, working methods and distribution.

### Aims:

Foreign Correspondent workshop aims to:

- Introduce and discuss the peculiarities of foreign corresponding and the influence on journalistic working conditions in different media systems and cultures.
- Enable students to work within a specific field of journalism and to concentrate on specific journalistic goals.
- Enhance students' capacity to conduct in-depth research and to identify relevant TV stories that are possible to produce with credible sources, visual proofs and appropriate storytelling.
- Give the students the practical training in performing as a correspondent.

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the module students are expected to have achieved:

#### *Knowledge*

- Know the cultural, linguistic and societal factors that influence the work of a foreign correspondent
- Know the journalistic working conditions in different cultures and regions.
- Know how to produce a foreign correspondent package to a home audience.

#### *Understanding*

- Understand the workload of a foreign correspondent.
- Understand how to identify international topics and events that are relevant for foreign reporting.
- Understand the importance of acknowledging different cultural backgrounds and societal developments when reporting from a foreign country.

#### *Skills*

- Know the news criteria for a current affaire story and work with demands in the research process.
- Be able to perform as a correspondent in live TV
- Know how to work with stringers/fixers and/or interpreters in a foreign country.
- Be able to write a treatment for a specific TV story and to write a complete manuscript for a current affairs TV story.
- Be able to research and plan a relevant and interesting TV package to a TV channel or web media, for a home audience or international target group.

## **Course 6: Final Project and written exam**

### **Outline:**

A TV journalist must be able to work with different formats, short and long. The final product is a short documentary, which demands a more in depth going journalistic approach of the students. The lectures and screenings will be on the research and planning process, and writing a script will also be a practical exercise. The students will make a written analysis of the production in a reflective report, which will count as a part of the final exam.

### **Aims:**

Final project aims to:

- Introduce and discuss the different forms of documentary genres and journalistic approaches.
- Enable students to do research, select reliable information and credible sources for a TV story in short-documentary format (12-15 min).
- Enable students to angle and focus a story and choose form and visual aesthetics that merge with the chosen documentary genre.
- Enable students to reflect on their own working process, including ethical production dilemmas, and to discuss and implement theoretical approaches to their own journalistic product.

**The written exam is in two parts and is taken individually**

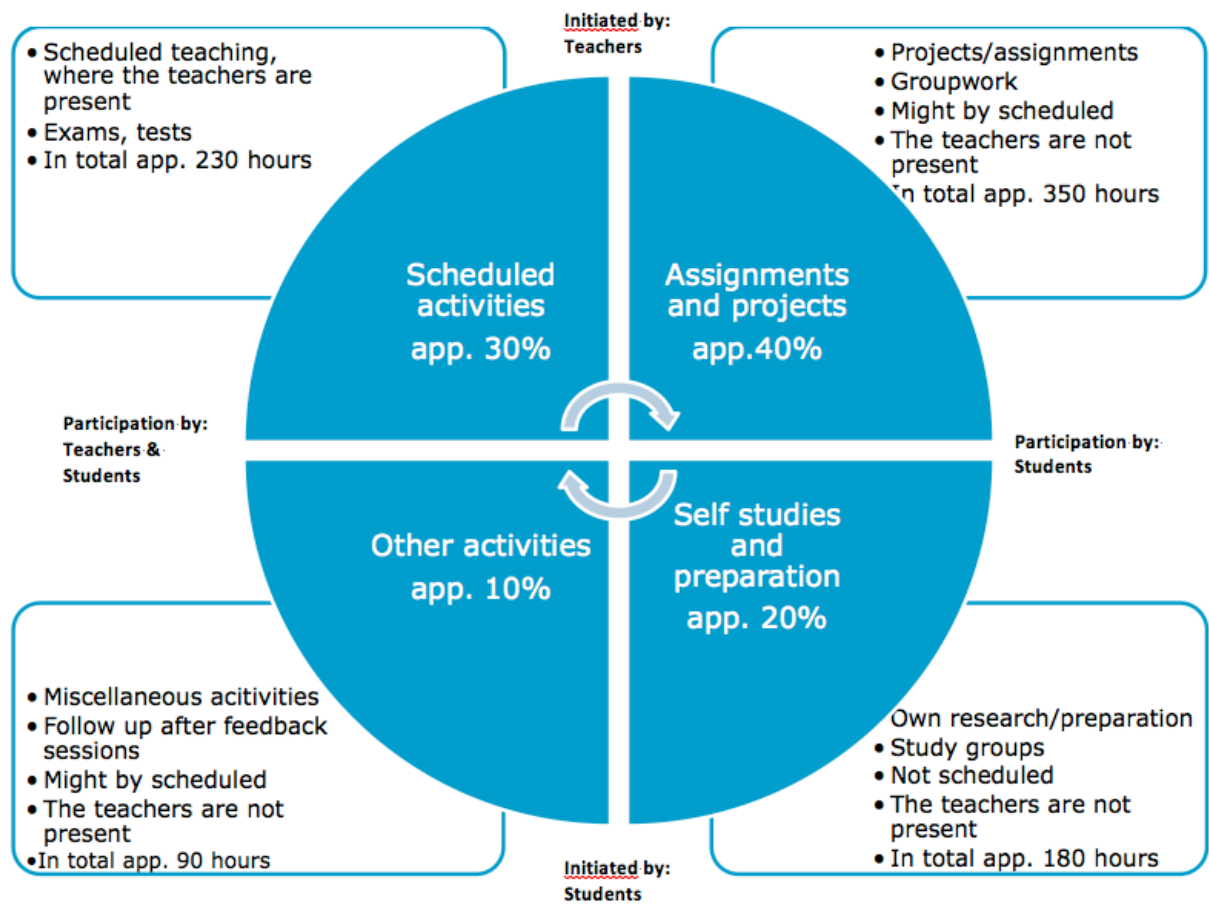
### **Part one:**

Two different TV stories will be screened and the student must write an analysis of the stories, based on given questions and theory from literature and lectures.

### **Part two:**

Is a written exam where the students must answer questions that are based on knowledge from literature and lectures.

## Working load for all courses shown in the Study Activity Model:





## **Programme Policy**

At the Danish School of Media and Journalism we strive to uphold the standards of excellence in Journalism.

We require the students to uphold the IJF standards of journalism in all their work according to The IFJ Declaration of Principles on the conduct of journalists adopted by the 1954 World Congress of the IFJ, and amended by the 1986 World Congress (see [www.ifj.org](http://www.ifj.org) and Student Handbook).

## **Additional lectures**

Guest lectures at the Danish School of Media and Journalism and other institutions will be offered during the programme.

## **Excursions and travels**

There will be time for individual excursions and travelling for reporting projects (at students' own expenses).

## **Alumni**

See the LinkedIn alumni site [Danish School of Media and Journalism alumni for journalists](#) of present and former participants in the school's different international programmes. Please remember to mention Danish School of Media and Journalism in your own LinkedIn profile, and link in for the alumni.

## **Facilities at the Danish School of Media and Journalism**

(Please consult the Student Handbook for more details about the facilities.)

### **Phone:**

We expect you to bring a mobile phone. For long distance calls, we advise students to buy global phone cards or use Skype.

### **Cameras - DMJX equipment:**

Students may borrow the school's HD-cameras. We advise you have a smart phone with video recording possibilities.

### **Computers:**

The school has computers (Mac) for the use of students, but we recommend that you bring your own laptop. You can use the school's wireless network for free.

Use of the computers evenings and weekends is possible, but requires an access card (deposit 200 DKK).

### **Email:**

You will be granted an email address at the school, to be used during your stay in Aarhus. The email address is needed in order to receive relevant messages, access course material, and submit assignments. We expect you to check your email at least on a daily basis. The email address also allows you access to the school's computers, printers and Wi-Fi.

The school email account will be closed one month after the programme has ended.

### **Photocopiers and printers:**

Each student gets a certain number of free prints. Copy cards for photocopies and additional prints can be purchased from the reception desk.

### **Library:**

The school's library containing the Danish Media Archives is at your disposal. There are also computers specially set up for international wire services and databases. The State and University Library at Aarhus University is also open for use with a Danish cpr-number, or you can order its material through the DMJX library.

### **Electronic classroom and publishing:**

The school uses a Moodle-based intranet (virtual classroom) for study related material and communication.

For online publishing purposes (internal and external), the school's Word Press-based Mediajungle-sites are used. Some productions are published online and/or in collaboration with external partners.

### **Classroom**

The international TV semester class of 21 students is allocated a dedicated classroom with editing facilities for 21 students.

### **For further information**

See Student Handbook on [www.dmjx.dk/international](http://www.dmjx.dk/international)

## Staff

### **Inger K. Larsen**

Journalist, Ass. professor, DMJX

Educational background: cand. Comm (candidata communicationis )University of Roskilde.

Assistant Professor in TV Journalism at Volda University College in Norway  
2008-2012.

Worked a TV/radio journalist and editor at The Danish Broadcasting Corporation 2000 - 2007. TV  
journalist at TV2 Denmark 1998-2000.

### **Hans Bromand Nørgård.**

Technical lecturer

Specialist in HD Camera and Final Cut Software

### **Anna Nejrup.**

International coordinator, DMJX

Educational background:

MA in French and English from Aarhus School of Business

Course: International student Coordinator

### **Inger Munk.**

Head of International Department, DMJX

Educational background: MSc. Geography, Aarhus University.

Course: Introduction and institutional coordinator

Various guest lecturers and more DMJX staff to be added