

This course covers the news writing and news gathering skills which every writer needs to master before they can become a competent feature writer. It also covers features ideas, how to ensure you follow an editor's brief, how to research your subject thoroughly, how to identify the best interviewees and get the best quotes and how to decide which style of feature it should be.

Course Information

Duration:	Two days	Location:	London
Cost:	Public course: £595 plus VAT Individual tuition: £990 plus VAT	Dates:	Please call 020 7359 9880 or visit www.lcmj.co.uk

Key topics:

- Different feature formats
- Finding good feature ideas
- How to research them
- The essentials of good English
- Structuring a feature
- How to interview and get the right quotes
- Law for journalists
- How to meet deadlines

Course Outline

Introduction

• The difference between a news story and a feature • How to construct a feature • Different feature formats: the Inverted Triangle vs the Diamond and other formats

Developing a nose for finding good subjects and how to research them

• How to turn good ideas into good features • How to decide what features will work best • How to research a feature • Using the web and other published sources, archives, organisations and individuals to best develop your ideas • How to spot ideas in other sources that were not intended to offer feature options

The essentials of good English and the secrets of structuring a feature

• Grammar and spelling • Sentence and paragraph construction • Different structures and formats for features • Feature styles • How to get the right start • Organising elements in the most logical and interesting way • Finding a good ending

How to interview and get the right quotes

• Preparing for an interview • Deciding who to interview • Ensuring you are well-briefed • Gaining your subject's confidence • Deciding when to use direct quotes • When to convert information into reported speech

Law for journalists

• Defamation • Contempt of court • Privacy laws

How to meet deadlines

• Setting realistic deadlines • Tips and tricks on how to make feature editors happy

All courses at the London College of Media and Journalism are supported by six months telephone Helpline support.