

News Writing : Advanced

Course Description

This course is for those with some experience of news writing who wish to improve their researching and writing skills, work on ways to come up with new treatments for news stories and brush up on media law.

The course is ideal for those who are writing news but have not had any formal training in reporting.

You will learn how to make your stories sharper, how to work faster and with greater accuracy and how to improve your news-gathering skills.

The course includes practical exercises in writing, interviewing, handling press conferences and re-writing copy.

Pre-Course Requirements

You need no previous experience to attend this course.

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Pricing & Availability

Course Duration:	One Day
Public Scheduled Course:	This course is only offered on a private tuition basis.
Public Scheduled Dates:	There are no public scheduled dates for this course.
Private Course:	£545.00 plus VAT for individual tuition. Call for prices for private groups of two or more.
Follow-on Courses:	Not Applicable
Post-Course Support:	The cost of the course includes lunch, course notes to take away, a certificate and six months telephone Helpline support.

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Introduction

- Common news writing problems
- Assessing your weaknesses and strengths
- Turning your weaknesses into strengths

Working with stories

- Isolating the essential facts that make a complex story newsworthy
- Researching complex stories
- Advanced story writing techniques
- Developing intro-writing skills

Structuring news stories

- News story structures
- More advanced techniques for structuring stories
- Verifying information

Sourcing news stories

- Building a network of brilliant contacts who give you stories
- Getting the stories they don't want you to get
- Finding off-diary stories
- Finding your own stories
- Developing a real nose for news

Handling tough interviews

- Dealing with a reluctant interviewee.
- How to deal with going off the record
- Avoiding "no comment"

Writing against the clock

- Writing against tightening deadlines
- Writing complex stories quickly
- Anticipating events and planning ahead

Covering a specialist area

- How to develop a specialist area - from industry or science to finance or politics.
- Developing specialist skills and contacts in a key area.

Questions and answers