

Djilali Bounaama University

Faculty of Social and Human Sciences

Social Science Department

Module: English

Level: First Year Master (All groups)

Journalism

Journalism is the process of gathering, preparing, and distributing news, as well as related commentary and feature materials, through print and electronic media like newspapers, magazines, books, blogs, webcasts, podcasts, social networking and social media sites, as well as radio, movies, and television. Newspapers were the primary medium for reporting on current events when the term "journalism" was first coined, but as radio, television, and the Internet became more widely used in the 20th century, the term came to refer to all printed and electronic communication that covered current affairs.



Journalism is a form of writing that tells people about things that really happened, but that they might not have known about already. People who write journalism are called "journalists." They might work at newspapers, magazines, websites or for TV or radio stations.

Types of journalism

Journalism comes in different forms:

I. News

- A. Breaking news: Telling about an event as it happens.
- B. Feature stories: A detailed look at something interesting that's not breaking news.
- C. Enterprise or Investigative stories: Stories that uncover information that few people knew.

II. Opinion

- A. Editorials: Unsigned articles that express a publication's opinion.
- B. Columns: Signed articles that express the writer's reporting and his conclusions.
- C. Reviews: Such as concert, restaurant or movie reviews.

Online, journalism can come in the forms listed above, as well as:

Blogs: Online diaries kept by individuals or small groups.

Discussion boards: Online question and answer pages where anyone can participate.

Wikis: Articles that any reader can add to or change.

Qualities of a good journalist

Curiosity: is an essential facet of a journalist's capacity to sense whether a news story is finished, or whether it is necessary to keep digging deeper. A less successful journalist might report a story with shallow or unsatisfactory answers to the core questions that drive the story. In contrast, a successful journalist won't release a story without having uncovered satisfactory, fully developed answers to all the compelling questions that are central to the story.

Investigative Skills :A journalist relies on facts and evidence, not on emotions while working on a story. An ideal journalist should be observant and possess strong analytical skills to assess a situation if there is something more to it. Whether it is about confirming the credibility of sources or assessing an incident, a journalist should know how to weight a situation critically. Sound judgment to verify the information before drafting the story is equally significant.

Effective Communication Skills :Like any other field, effective communication skills are essential for an ideal journalist. If you know your way with people, you can understand them

then you can extract relevant information for a story. An ideal journalist should also know how to take control of a situation if the interview goes wrong. Journalists should be proficient in English and be well-versed to file a story that would attract the target audience.

Professionalism and Confidence :Even if you are a fresher and in your internship phase, you should consider yourself a professional. What professionalism means in the journalism field is meeting deadlines, ready to take up work before regular working hours and have the courage to accept criticism from the editors. Also, journalists should reflect confidence in order to succeed.

Persistence and Discipline :The profession of journalism requires hard work and persistence. Sometimes you might be chasing a story for months to get a lead and hit the newspapers. During such times, an ideal journalist should not give up following on a story and must remain disciplined. The ultimate motive of any journalist should be to find the truth and seek justice in all matters even if he or she has received recognition for their efforts.

Ethics :With so much of competition to move ahead in the race, sometimes journalists abandon their ethics for money and fame. A good journalist should always behave ethically and never follow illegal measures even if it helps in uncovering the secrets behind a story. Accuracy and honest should be more important while writing a new piece.