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The published on-line version of the Course Profile is the authoritative version and by the publication of the Course Profile on-line the University deems the student has been notified of and read the course requirements.

# 1. General Course Information

## 1.1 Course Details

COURSE CODE	1507LHS
COURSE TITLE	Research Skills and Writing for Communication and Journalism
ACADEMIC ORGANISATION	LHS School of Humanities, Languages and Social Science
TRIMESTER	Trimester 1 2019
MODE	In Person
LEVEL	Undergraduate
LOCATION	Nathan, On Campus
CREDIT POINT VALUE	10

## Course Description:

Students learn the essential research and writing skills required for their dynamic roles as media and communication professionals. These include information selection and management, data analytics, fact verification, critical appraisal, source selection, and various genres of communication writing.

## Assumed Background:

This is an introductory course and you are not required to have any prior knowledge

## 1.2 Course Introduction

Students learn essential skills required for their dynamic roles as media and communication professionals. These include information selection and management, data analytics, fact verification, critical appraisal, source selection, and profession specific critical thinking skills in various genres of communication.

Students are required to attend both weekly lectures and tutorials on the campus on most weeks (please see lecture schedule document in week 1). **This is a hands-on subject and class attendance and active participation in class activities is compulsory, and your failure to attend and engage may reflect in your marks.**

## Previous Student Feedback

This is a news course

## 1.3 Course Staff

Primary Convenor **Dr Kasun Ubayasiri**

PHONE	0421392847
EMAIL	<a href="mailto:k.ubayasiri@griffith.edu.au">k.ubayasiri@griffith.edu.au</a>
CAMPUS	Nathan Campus
BUILDING	Macrossan (N16)
ROOM	2.92

## 1.4 Timetable

Timetables are available on [the Programs and Courses website](#).

NB: Details contained in this section of the course profile and section 4.1 Learning Activities are to be read in conjunction with the official class timetable. The published class timetable which is the authoritative source for timetabling information for all campuses can be located by clicking on the link above.

### Additional Timetable Information

Students are **required to attend both weekly lectures and tutorials on the campus on most weeks (please see lecture schedule document in week 1)**. This is a hands-on subject and class attendance and active participation in class activities is compulsory, and your failure to attend and engage may reflect in your marks.

## 1.5 Lecture Capture

It is standard practice at Griffith University that lectures timetabled in lecture capture-enabled venues are recorded and made available to students on the relevant course site, in accordance with the University's [Lecture Capture Policy](#).

The lecture series delivered as part of this course will be recorded and accessible via the Learning@Griffith course site.

# 2. Aims, Outcomes & Graduate Attributes

## 2.1 Course Aims

This course offers an introduction to research and information gathering in the new media landscape. Building on knowledge gained in 1510LHS Introduction to Communication and Journalism, students will learn to plan and execute information gathering and fact-checking tasks for a range of communication fields and genres. Students in this course will learn to develop a professional identity best suited to their individual needs and capabilities, and map career pathways in the news media landscape. Students in this course will learn how to interview people, fact-check information and work with data. This course will also introduce students to notions of professional integrity and socially-responsible communication practices; and the role of contemporary communicators in empowering communities and facilitating social change.

## 2.2 Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course you should be able to:

- 1 Understanding of the methods and methodologies of research in both journalism and public relations practice
- 2 Demonstrate the ability to apply the methods and methodologies of research in both journalism and public relations practice.
- 3 Apply basic principles of journalism and public relations to genre specific forms of writing.

## 2.3. Graduate Attributes

For further details on the Griffith Graduate please [click here](#)

Griffith University prepares influential graduates to be:

- [Knowledgeable and skilled, with critical judgement](#)
- [Effective communicators and collaborators](#)
- [Innovative, creative and entrepreneurial](#)
- [Socially responsible and engaged in their communities](#)
- [Culturally capable when working with First Australians](#)
- [Effective in culturally diverse and international environments](#)

**This table demonstrates where each of the Griffith Graduate Attributes is taught, practised and assessed in this course.**

For further details on the Griffith Graduate Attributes please refer to [The Griffith Graduate policy](#).

University wide attributes

GRADUATE ATTRIBUTE	TAUGHT	PRACTISED	ASSESSED
Knowledgeable and skilled, with critical judgement	•	•	•
Effective communicators and collaborators	•	•	•
Innovative, creative and entrepreneurial	•	•	•
Socially responsible and engaged in their communities	•	•	•
Culturally capable when working with First Australians	•	•	•
Effective in culturally diverse and international environments	•	•	•

# 3. Learning Resources

## 3.1 Required Resources

Details of your Required Learning Resources are available from the [Reading List](#).

## 3.2 Recommended Resources

Details of your Recommended Learning Resources are available from the [Reading List](#).

## 3.3 University Learning Resources

The University provides many facilities and support services to assist students in their studies. Links to information about University support resources that are available to students are included below for easy reference.

[Readings](#) - New online service enabling students to access Required and Recommended Learning resources. It connects to the library catalogue to assist with quickly locating material held in Griffith libraries and enables students to manage and prioritise their readings, add personal study notes and export citations.

[Learning@Griffith](#) - there is a dedicated website for this course via the Learning@Griffith at myGriffith.

[Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) - this tutorial helps students to understand what academic integrity is and why it matters. You will be able to identify types of academic misconduct, understand what skills you will need in order to maintain academic integrity, and learn about the processes of referencing styles.

[Student Services](#) provides a range of services to support students throughout their studies including personal support such as Counselling and Health Services; Academic support; and Financial and Welfare support.

[Careers and Employment Service](#) can assist all enrolled students and recent graduates with career direction, course uncertainty, interview preparation, job search tips, LinkedIn reviews and much more. Our [Unitemps Recruitment Service](#) can assist you with finding paid casual work while you study.

[Information Services \(Study\)](#) provides academic, information and digital skills support resources. The study skills resources on this website include self-help tasks focusing on preparing for your assignment, writing your assignment, exam preparation, referencing and access to free online training to improve your digital skills.

[Support for learning](#) - the University provides access to common use computing facilities for educational purposes.

[Code of Practice](#) - Griffith Information Technology Resources.

## 4. Teaching & Learning Activities

### 4.1 Learning Activities

Week Commencing	Activity	Learning Outcomes
25 Feb 19	<b>weekly Lecture-workshop (Lecture Series):</b> Students will engage 12 weeks of lectures mostly offered face-to-face (please see colour coded schedule on L@G for further details. Students will be expected to attend lecture and engage with the online content provided through L@G. failure to attend lectures and engage with the reading may result in a poor mark.	1, 2, 3
25 Feb 19	<b>Weekly tutes (Tutorial Series):</b> Students will engage 12 weeks of tutes mostly offered face-to-face (please see colour coded schedule on L@G for further details. Tutorial will be designed to reinforce lecture content and provide an opportunity to practice skills discussed in class. Failure to attend lectures and engage with the reading may result in a poor mark.	1, 2, 3

## 5. Assessment Plan

### 5.1 Assessment Summary

This is a summary of the assessment in the course. For detailed information on each assessment, see [5.2 Assessment Detail](#) below.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DUE DATE	WEIGHTING	MARKED OUT OF	LEARNING OUTCOMES	MAXIMUM EXTENSION PERIOD
<i>Test or quiz</i> In-class and/or online quiz	25 Feb 19 - 1 Apr 19	20%	20 marks	1, 2, 3	
<i>Presentation - technical or professional</i> Oral presentation	25 Mar 19 - 10 May 19	40%	40 marks	1, 2, 3	
<i>Assignment - Written Assignment</i> Fact checking assignment	10 May 19	40%	40 marks	1, 2, 3	

### 5.2 Assessment Detail

**Title:** In-class and/or online quiz

**Type:** Test or quiz

**Learning Outcomes Assessed:** 1, 2, 3

**Due Date:**

25 Feb 19 - 1 Apr 19

**Weight:** 20%

**Marked out of:** 20

**Task Description:**

Student will be quizzed on lecture connect, in-class discussions, and other specified readings, in through a timed quiz in class and/or online

**Criteria & Marking:**

Student will be quizzed on lecture connect, in-class discussions, and other specified readings, in through a timed quiz in class and/or online.

**This assessment item:**

- is a school based activity
- is an individual activity
- does not include a self assessment activity
- does not have a re-attempt provision

**Title:** Oral presentation

**Type:** Presentation - technical or professional

**Learning Outcomes Assessed:** 1, 2, 3

**Due Date:**

25 Mar 19 - 10 May 19

**Weight:** 40%

**Marked out of:** 40

**Task Description:**

Research the career of a well-known communication professional or interview a communication professional employed in your 'dream job'. Then, position them in the communication landscape as a journalist, public communicator or Public Relations professional, using your knowledge gained through course content and readings.

Prepare a 5min TEDTalk style presentation for presentation in tutorials (weeks 5 -10) and a 800-1000 word referenced essay. Students will be selected for presentation at random at the beginning of each tute.

**Criteria & Marking:**

Please see marking criteria on L@G

**This assessment item:**

- is a school based activity
- is an individual activity
- does not include a self assessment activity
- does not have a re-attempt provision

**Title:** Fact checking assignment

**Type:** Assignment - Written Assignment

**Learning Outcomes Assessed:** 1, 2, 3

**Due Date:**

10 May 19

**Weight:** 40%

**Marked out of:** 40

**Task Description:**

Fact-check one of four statements provided in week 4, and write a well referenced 'ABC Fact Check' type report 800-1000 words long. You will be marked on the quality and clarity of the argument, depth of research, and clarity of structure and innovation of presentation

**Criteria & Marking:**

You will be marked on the quality and clarity of the argument, depth of research, and clarity of structure and innovation of presentation. Please see L@G for more information.

**Submission:** online via L@G

**This assessment item:**

- is a school based activity
- is an individual activity
- does not include a self assessment activity
- does not have a resubmission provision

## 5.3 Late Submission

An assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension from the Course Convenor, will be penalised. The standard penalty is the reduction of the mark allocated to the assessment item by 10% of the maximum mark applicable for the assessment item, for each working day or part working day that the item is late. Assessment items submitted more than five working days after the due date are awarded zero marks.

## 5.4 Other Assessment Information

**Griffith University Disclosure Statement**

The University shall provide reasonable adjustments to assessment for students with disabilities consistent with the *Disabilities Standards for Education 2005*, while maintaining the academic integrity of its programs. Adjustments shall be made on an individual basis. Please refer to this policy as it sets out the principles and processes that guide the University [Reasonable Adjustments for Assessment - Students with Disabilities](#)

**Supplementary Assessment** is not available for this course.

#### Final Grades

A student's final grade for this course will be based on the aggregation and weighting of marks across assessment, any mandatory pass components and grade cut-offs. Grade cut-offs can vary, so you will need to wait for the official release of grades to be sure of your grade for this course.

- This course is a graded course (i.e 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1).
- There will be no Supplementary Assessment in this course

## 6. Policies & Guidelines

This section contains the details of and links to the most relevant policies and course guidelines. For further details on University Policies please visit the [Policy Library](#)

### 6.1 Assessment Related Policies and Guidelines

#### University Policies & Guidelines

The University's assessment-related policies can be found in the [Griffith Policy Library](#).

The Assessment policy covers topics including: assessment requirements; award of grades; supplementary assessment; special consideration; extensions and deferred assessment; conduct of students in examinations; cheating; plagiarism; notification of results; appeals against the award of grades.

#### Academic Integrity

Student academic misconduct encompasses all behaviour:

- involving the misrepresentation of academic achievement; or
- undermining the core values (honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility) of academic integrity; or
- breaching academic integrity;

whether intentional or unintentional. Student academic misconduct includes doing as well as attempting to do any of the acts, omissions or things that constitute academic misconduct.

Student academic misconduct is defined in the [Institutional Framework for Promoting Academic Integrity among Students](#).

Please also refer to the [Student Academic Misconduct Policy](#).

#### Reasonable Adjustments for Assessment - Students with Disabilities Policy

The [Reasonable Adjustments for Assessment - Students with Disabilities](#) Policy sets out the principles and processes that guide the University in making reasonable adjustments to assessment for students with disabilities while maintaining the academic integrity of its programs.

#### Griffith University Disclosure Statement

The [Griffith University Disclosure Statement](#) has been developed to identify and negotiate whether necessary and reasonable accommodations and adjustments can be made, wherever possible, to enable students with disabilities and/or health conditions to undertake required learning activities. Course Convenors are encouraged to reference the Griffith University Disclosure Statement in the Learning Activities and Assessment Plan sections of their course profiles.

#### Assessment, how to submit an assignment and exams, viewing your grades

All you need to know about [assessment, exams and grades](#)

#### Text Matching Software

The University uses text matching software. Students should be aware that your Course Convenor may use software to check submitted assessment tasks. If this is the case, your Course Convenor will provide more detailed information about how the software will be used for individual assessment items.

#### Related links:

- [Academic Integrity website](#)
- [Academic Standing, Progression and Exclusion Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Assessment Submission and Return Procedures](#)
- [End of Trimester Centrally Administered Examinations Policy and Procedures](#)
- [Governance of Assessment and Academic Achievement Standards](#)
- [Standards for First Year Assessment](#)
- [Institutional Framework for Promoting Academic Integrity among Students](#)
- [Student Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

## LHS School of Humanities, Languages and Social Science

#### Assessment Guidelines

A formal Referencing Style Handbook is available on the [Learning@Griffith](#) course website.

## 6.2 Other Policies and Guidelines

### University Policies and Guidelines

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have read all sections of the Course Profile for the course/s in which they are enrolled in any enrolment period. The published online version of the Course Profile is the authoritative version and by the publication of the Course Profile online, the University deems the student has been notified of and read the course requirements. Variations to the Course Profile during the trimester of offer are not permitted except in exceptional circumstances and will be advised in writing to all enrolled students and via the [Learning@Griffith](mailto:Learning@Griffith) website. Additional information regarding the content of this course may be published on the [Learning@Griffith](http://Learning@Griffith) website.

#### Copyright matters

Copyright applies to all teaching materials and materials generated by students which substantially relate to Griffith University courses. *Students are warned against selling Griffith University teaching materials and their student notes online through commercial websites during and after their studies.* You will almost certainly be in breach of copyright law and Griffith's IT Code of Practice if you post these materials on the internet and commercial websites. Please refer to the [Copyright Guide for Students](#) for further information.

#### Health and Safety

Griffith University is committed to providing a safe work and study environment. However, all students, staff and visitors have an obligation to ensure the safety of themselves and those whose safety may be affected by their actions. Staff in control of learning activities will ensure as far as reasonably practical, that those activities are safe and that all safety obligations are being met. Students are required to comply with all safety instructions and are requested to report safety concerns to the University.

General health and safety information is available on the [Health, Safety and Wellbeing](#) website.

#### Other Key Student-Related Policies

All University policy documents are accessible to students via the [Griffith Policy Library](#) and links to key policy documents, in addition to those listed in 6.1 above, are included below for easy reference:

- [Student Communications Policy](#)
- [Health and Safety Policy](#)
- [Student Administration Policy](#)
- [Student Charter](#)
- [Student Review and Appeals Policy](#)
- [Student Review and Appeals Procedures](#)
- [Student Complaints Policy](#)

## Learning Summary

Below is a table showing the relationship between the learning outcomes for this course, the learning activities used to develop each outcome and the assessment task used to assess each outcome.

### Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course you should be able to:

- 1 Understanding of the methods and methodologies of research in both journalism and public relations practice
- 2 Demonstrate the ability to apply the methods and methodologies of research in both journalism and public relations practice.
- 3 Apply basic principles of journalism and public relations to genre specific forms of writing.

### Assessment & Learning Activities

LEARNING ACTIVITIES	LEARNING OUTCOMES		
	1	2	3
weekly Lecture-workshop (Lecture Series)	●	●	●
Weekly tutes (Tutorial Series)	●	●	●
<b>ASSESSMENT TASKS</b>			
In-class and/or online quiz	●	●	●
Oral presentation	●	●	●
Fact checking assignment	●	●	●

# Graduate Attributes

For further details on the Griffith Graduate please [click here](#)

Griffith University prepares influential graduates to be:

- [Knowledgeable and skilled, with critical judgement](#)
- [Effective communicators and collaborators](#)
- [Innovative, creative and entrepreneurial](#)
- [Socially responsible and engaged in their communities](#)
- [Culturally capable when working with First Australians](#)
- [Effective in culturally diverse and international environments](#)

**This table demonstrates where each of the Griffith Graduate Attributes is taught, practised and assessed in this course.**

University wide attributes

GRADUATE ATTRIBUTE	TAUGHT	PRACTISED	ASSESSED
Knowledgeable and skilled, with critical judgement	•	•	•
Effective communicators and collaborators	•	•	•
Innovative, creative and entrepreneurial	•	•	•
Socially responsible and engaged in their communities	•	•	•
Culturally capable when working with First Australians	•		
Effective in culturally diverse and international environments	•	•	