

Department of Media and Communication

Faculty

A faculty is the collective name for a group of schools. The Media department is part of the Faculty for Humanities and Social Sciences. Swansea University has two other faculties, the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences and the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

School

Each faculty is made up of a number of schools, where similar subjects are grouped together. The Media Department is part of the School of Culture and Communications. Other schools within our faculty are the School of Management, the Hillary Rodham Clinton School of Law and the School of Social Sciences. We work with other subjects in our school – sometimes their modules (see below) will be available to us and ours to them. We also work with them on research projects, for example.

Academic mentor

You will be allocated one of these on arrival. This will be a member of the academic staff that will be your “go-to” one-stop-shop and will take a general and long-term interest in your academic development. Usually, the person to write a reference when you graduate!

Office Hours

Every academic member of staff will have two hours every week where they will be waiting in their offices ready to meet with any student. They will have information on their doors detailing when these hours are. Alternatively, you can always email us and ask for a meeting.

Semester

An 11-week period of teaching. At Swansea, there are two semesters every academic year. The first semester runs from September to December, the second semester runs from January to April / May.

Module

A module is a unit of learning. In your first year, you will choose a total of six media modules – three in the first semester and three in the second. You can choose the modules that most appeal to you in terms of their subject matter.

Lecture

Each module is usually made up of one, two-hour teaching session every week, where you will listen and discuss academic ideas and theories about a variety of media-related subjects.

More 



Seminar

In addition to the two-hour lecture, each module has a one-hour seminar each week. Seminars have a smaller number of students, and offer an opportunity to discuss what was covered in the lecture and/or to carry out some practical tasks that help to reinforce your learning.

TB1 & TB2

Semesters are also sometime referred as TB1 and TB2. This stands for Teaching Block 1 and Teaching Block 2.

Assessment period

This is as it suggests, where the focus is on exams and lectures do not take place. But the good news for media students at Swansea is that we don't make you sit exams – assessments (the ways we test your work and knowledge) are coursework based, some practical, some theoretical and some a mixture of both.

Canvas or Virtual Learning Environment

Each module has its own online website hosted on a platform called Canvas. Here you will find all the information about the module including assessment dates, copies of lecture slides and videos of the lectures.

Student number

When you enrol, you will be allocated a student number. This will be unique to you, and will remain your Swansea University Student Number for as long as you study with us. It will also function as your student email prefix (1234567@swansea.ac.uk)

Fresher

What first year students are affectionately known as!

Freshers' Week

Your first week at Swansea University! There will be no lectures, so you will have time to get familiar with the campus, and meet people who will likely become life-long friends. Also known as "Induction Week".

Swansea University Student's Union (SUSU)

As a student at Swansea, you will automatically become a member of the Student's Union. Run by students for students, it is there to represent your interests and to give you a voice.

Campus University

A university with a dedicated location where teaching facilities, leisure facilities, accommodation and bars and shops can all be found on the campus. Swansea University has two campuses, the Singleton Park Campus, where the Media Department is located, and the Bay Campus.

BA

BA stands for Bachelor of Arts, which is the qualification usually associated with arts and humanities degrees. You can find out more about BA Honours degrees that are offered by our Media Department by [clicking here](#).

Joint Honours

A joint honours degree is where you choose to study two subjects. You still only study six modules every year, but they are split 50:50 between the two subjects. You can study a joint honours Media degree with English Language, English Literature or Welsh.

Masters

After you graduate from your undergraduate degree, but want to continue with your studies, you can choose to study an MA or Masters postgraduate programme with us. You can find out more by [clicking here](#).

PhD

Also known as a doctorate, this is the highest academic qualification. It is usually based on three years' original and independent research. Once achieved, you can then use the honorific Dr in front of your name.

Employability

A term you will hear often within our department. Your employability is another way of stating how good your job prospects when you graduate are. At Swansea's Media Department, a combination of what you study, the work placement opportunities that you will be offered and how you are assessed will make you attractive to future employers!

Authentic assessment

Another way we enhance your employability is to offer assessments that mirror challenges that you might face in the work environment. Some examples we use are developing public relations communications campaigns, sourcing and writing news stories and taking part in competitive pitches to representatives from the media industries.

Dissertation

A dissertation is an extended essay. As an undergraduate, you will have the opportunity to research and write an 8,000-word dissertation in your third year. Much more interesting and much less scary as it sounds, as you'll get to work with an academic specialist in the area you're research and writing about.

Varsity

The sporting festival that takes place every May when our university plays Cardiff University in everything from netball to golf, from American football to ultimate frisbee. Usually a long, entertaining and emotional day!

Self-directed learning

Every week in your first year you will have an average of six hours of lectures and three hours of seminars – 9 hours of face-to-face teaching in total. It might not seem like a lot, but remember that a lecture is just the starting point for your studies. You are then expected to undertake a whole lot of reading from reading lists that will be given to you. This independent learning, also known as self-directed learning is what makes studying at university so different from studying at school and college.

TurtlIn

This is how you submit all of your written coursework. You will find a link for each piece of work you will submit on the module Canvas page.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is where a student tries to pass off someone else's work as their own, often by cutting and pasting excerpts of essays that they have found online. Please don't do this – it really is not worth the risk.

Submission deadlines

Submission deadlines are non-negotiable unless you have permission to submit at a later date (see Extenuating Circumstances below)

Extenuating circumstances

But we are human, and sometimes serious circumstances (illness, bereavement) mean that it is impossible for a student to submit. In which case, you can make a request for extenuating circumstances, where you may be allowed an extension to the deadline for submitting your assignment.





We look forward to teaching you all

Media @ Swansea University



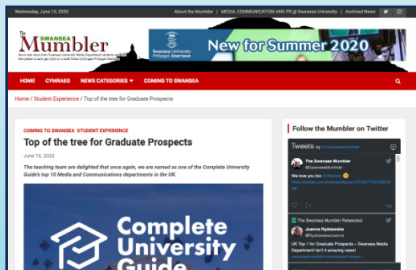
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The **SWANSEA** Mumbler



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The Swansea Mumbler is a community website for all those connected to the Media, Communications and PR Department within Swansea University

