

Communication and Media MRes

COURSE DETAILS

- Full-time: 12 months
- Part-time: 24 months

KEY DATES

- Apply by: [29 August 2025](#)
 - Starts: 22 September 2025
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Course overview

The Communication and Media MRes allows you to undertake a one year full-time or two year part-time research project in Communication and Media. You will receive training in research skills and supervision from one or more academic specialists in their subject area.

INTRODUCTION

The programme provides excellent preparation for you if you're intending to undertake a PhD in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, but is also a good choice if you wish to pursue a research project for purposes of professional development or personal interest.

You will become part of a community of active researchers conducting interdisciplinary research on topics including: digital and social media; political communication and journalism; media history and theory; film and screen; strategic communication; cultural studies and cultural anthropology; photography; computer games; television and magazines; global entertainment, and global events. As a research student you will be encouraged to pursue your own research interests in collaboration with an academic supervisor.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This programme is designed for those considering careers in, for example, media, journalism, publishing and management.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Develop independent research skills
- Expertise gained through close one-to-one engagement with a research specialist
- The ability to draw on and critically evaluate a range of appropriate research resources to an advanced level

- Knowledge developed as part of an interdisciplinary teaching and research environment
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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

SEMESTER ONE

You will take ONE only of the following modules: COMM747, COMM523, COMM760, COMM749, COMM742, or COMM755. This will be determined by your research proposal and you will be allocated the module most appropriate to your subject of study.

COMPULSORY MODULES

RESEARCH RESOURCES (COMM701)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Research Resources is a preparatory module that allows students to develop a body of research materials relevant to their dissertation project. With guidance from the supervisor(s), students will identify the key primary and secondary sources that will inform their work. They will develop detailed knowledge of the existing scholarship and debates in their field, while also beginning to identify the contribution that will be made by their own work.

By the end of the module, students will have produced a detailed critical bibliography of key primary and secondary sources that will provide the critical foundation for your dissertation project.

OPTIONAL MODULES

RESEARCH METHODS IN MEDIA & POLITICS (COMM747)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module is designed to prepare students for their dissertation research. It begins by introducing them to the fundamental aspects of research in the field of media and communication studies, looking at how to find and critique existing knowledge in the field, research project design, and ethical considerations.

Students will then be introduced to a number of approaches in the field of political communication research such as media content analysis, frame analysis, survey design, interview techniques, focus group research, as well as the basics of statistical data analysis and data visualisation. By the end of the module, students will be in a position to present and submit their own dissertation proposals.

RESEARCH METHODS FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION (COMM523)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The module gives MSc Strategic Communication students the set of methodological concepts and skills necessary for undertaking scientific research in the field of communication sciences, with special attention to the analysis and evaluation of strategic communication. The module is intended to prepare students for the dissertation and to support them in the different research projects and activities undertaken during the academic year.

RESEARCHING CULTURE AND EVERYDAY LIFE (COMM760)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Researching Culture and Everyday Life provides an introduction to a range of research methods and critical-creative approaches designed to equip students with the relevant skills and methodological tools required for studying media, culture and everyday life. The module is organised around three main blocks. The first, consisting of four lectures, introduces students to the fundamentals of research design, philosophy and ethics. Looking ahead to the final assessment, practical guidance and skills in designing and developing a research project proposal will also be provided. The first block of lectures is delivered as part of wider postgraduate methods training in the Department of Communication Media, and sessions are accordingly shared with students studying on parallel masters programmes. The second and third block of lectures focus on research methods frameworks and approaches that are specific to the Media, Culture and Everyday Life programme. These include ethnographic and autoethnographic methods, the role of archives in cultural research, working with sensory and affective approaches to research practice, visual methods, microhistorical approaches, 'messy' and creative/experimental research methods.

RESEARCHING SCREEN (COMM749)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Researching Screen is a research methods module aiming to demonstrate both the fundamental principles of academic research design and the ideas and philosophies that underpin it as well as showcase certain philosophical, theoretical, methodological and analytical approaches that have been utilised in the study of screen media. The module is organised in 3 blocks.

The first block includes sessions that are broadly about research design across the academic spectrum and delivered to all PGT students in the Department. It will include important introductory sessions and will be delivered by staff across the various research clusters in the department.

Block two and three are subject specific and focus exclusively on research approaches that have been informed by theories, philosophies and disciplinary traditions associated with the field of the arts, humanities and cultural studies. These include approaches that are centred on the study of the visual image as text (semiotics, narrative, style) on relevant contexts around industrial and cultural aspects of screen media (political economy to cultural approaches to industry research), on media specific models of analysis (games and television) and on audiences and fans.

Blocks two and three will be delivered by a number of colleagues in the Screen and Film Studies research cluster who will demonstrate research methods based on their own expertise.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE METHODS (COMM742)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will provide students with skills to understand and apply the building blocks of computational social science. Students will be introduced to cutting edge methods to design, develop and interpret quantitative surveys, as well as to cutting edge methods for collecting and analysing large datasets from digital sources at different levels of granularity. At the end of the module, students will be able to match techniques to answer research questions such as "What are peoples' attitudes towards news media and what social factors significantly influence those attitudes?"- , - "How does disinformation spread?" , " What hot topics were debated on social media in the last month?". The module will be taught following "active learning" methodologies where empirical activities as well as group discussions will play a key role.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

SEMESTER TWO

COMPULSORY MODULES

FEASIBILITY STUDY (COMM702)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

This module allows students to develop a substantial piece of written work that will demonstrate and clarify the aims and scope of their project. By the end of the module, students will have defined their key research questions and begun to develop key points of their analysis and argument. Though the module is in some respects continuous with COMM704 and can be thought of as the beginning of students' work on their dissertation, it is also intended to provide substantial feedback on the development of their research project and plans. Students will work with their supervisor(s) to define their key questions, clarify the scope and purposes of their project, and identify any possible challenges. At the end of the module, students will submit a substantial piece of written work that will demonstrate the aims and feasibility of their project. Material used in this assessment can be included in their final dissertation and might take the form of a sample chapter.

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

FINAL PROJECT

During the summer you will complete your dissertation, for submission in September.

COMPULSORY MODULES

DISSERTATION (COMM704)

Credits: 120 / Semester: whole session

On this module, students will undertake a piece of original research in their chosen field. With guidance from an academic supervisor (or supervisory team) students will produce a dissertation of between 30,000 and 35,000 words (or equivalent) based on their independent research. This module is a core component of the MRes Communication and Media programme and as such its syllabus will vary according to the individual research project and will be determined by the student with guidance from the academic supervisor(s).

Any optional modules listed above are illustrative only and may vary from year to year. Modules may be subject to minimum student numbers being achieved and staff availability. This means that the availability of specific optional modules cannot be guaranteed.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

Teaching on MRes Communication and Media is delivered through regular supervisory meetings with academic staff with subject-area expertise matched to students' specific

areas of research interest. With the exception of one class-taught module on research methods (to be chosen from five different bespoke methods modules offered by the Department of Communication and Media), there is no group teaching. MRes students are invited and encouraged to participate in, and contribute to the wider research culture in the Department. But in terms of teaching, students' main point of contact will be with supervisors who provide one-on-one tutorials.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Students studying the MRes will be assessed by coursework. Preparatory work (e.g. annotated bibliography, research project proposal) is designed to provide step-by-step development of ideas and knowledge that will feed into completion of the final dissertation (30-35,000 words), which is the primary mode of assessment.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

The MRes Communication and Media may enhance the career prospects of those working or wishing to work in fields associated with the study of Communication and Media subjects (Film, Television, Digital Media, Journalism, Linguistics, Public Relations, Cultural Industries, etc.). While managerial positions often require the ability to conduct research or project-work and to demonstrate sustained and complex organisational skills in ways encompassed by this programme, its emphasis on oral and written communication skills as well as on IT-based presentation skills will be useful for many types of employment.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

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Career planning

[Our Careers Studio and career coaches can provide tailored support for your future plans.](#)

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From education to employment

Employability in your curriculum for a successful transition

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Networking events

[Make meaningful connections with like-minded professionals](#)

YOUR FUTURE

You may want to take this course for personal development as you are interested in the field. Equally, the MRes is designed to prepare you for further research at PhD level, and to enable you to enter postgraduate research, offering a first step towards a career in academic teaching and research.

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)	
Full-time place, per year	£4,800
Part-time place, per year	£2,400

International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£24,600
Part-time place, per year	£12,300

Fees stated for UK students are for the academic year 2024/25 and are subject to change for 2025/26. Fees stated for international students are for the academic year 2025/26. Some MRes courses incur additional bench fees. You will be notified of any fee which applies to you in your offer letter.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about fees and funding](#).

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Please note, this programme may have additional costs associated with it depending on your choice of a lab or computational/fieldwork-based project.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries that could help pay your tuition and living expenses.

We've set the country or region your qualifications are from as United Kingdom. [Change it here](#)

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POSTGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP – ACHIEVEMENT

◦ [International students](#)

[If you're an international student joining a master's course with us, you could be eligible to receive a tuition fee discount of £2,500, based on your prior academic achievement, choice of course, and you not having studied with us before.](#)

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POSTGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP – COUNTRY

◦ [International students](#)

◦ [Antigua and Barbuda](#)

◦ [Australia](#)

◦ [Bangladesh](#)

◦ [Barbados](#)

◦ [Belize](#)

◦ [Brunei](#)

◦ [Canada](#)

◦ [China](#)

◦ [Cyprus](#)

◦ [Dominica](#)

◦ [Egypt](#)

◦ [Ghana](#)

◦ [Grenada](#)

◦ [Guyana](#)

◦ [India](#)

◦ [Jamaica](#)

◦ [Japan](#)

◦ [Kenya](#)

◦ [Malaysia](#)

◦ [Mauritius](#)

◦ [Mexico](#)

◦ [New Zealand](#)

◦ [Nigeria](#)

◦ [Pakistan](#)

◦ [Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)

◦ [Saint Lucia](#)

◦ [Saint Vincent and The Grenadines](#)

- [Singapore](#)
- [South Africa](#)
- [South Korea](#)
- [Sri Lanka](#)
- [Tanzania](#)
- [Thailand](#)
- [Trinidad and Tobago](#)
- [Turkey](#)
- [Uganda](#)
- [Vietnam](#)

[If you're an international student joining a master's course with us, you could be eligible to receive a tuition fee discount of £2,500, based on your nationality, choice of course, and you not having studied with us before.](#)

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GRADUATE LOYALTY ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

- [Home and international students](#)

[If you're a University of Liverpool graduate starting this master's degree with us, you could be eligible to receive a loyalty discount of up to £2,500 off your master's tuition fees.](#)

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CHILEAN NATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (ANID) SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)
- [Chile](#)

[If you're a Chilean student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a Chilean National Agency for Research and Development \(ANID\) Scholarship. Scholarship.](#)

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CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIPS

- [International students](#)
- [Albania](#)
- [Algeria](#)
- [Anguilla](#)
- [Antigua and Barbuda](#)
- [Argentina](#)
- [Australia](#)
- [Azerbaijan](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Barbados](#)
- [Belize](#)
- [Bolivia](#)
- [Brazil](#)
- [British Virgin Islands](#)
- [Brunei](#)
- [Canada](#)

- [Cayman Islands](#)
- [Chile](#)
- [China](#)
- [Columbia](#)
- [Costa Rica](#)
- [Cuba](#)
- [Dominica](#)
- [Ecuador](#)
- [Egypt](#)
- [El Salvador](#)
- [Ghana](#)
- [Guatemala](#)
- [Guyana](#)
- [Honduras](#)
- [Hong Kong](#)
- [Iceland](#)
- [India](#)
- [Indonesia](#)
- [Iraq](#)
- [Jamaica](#)
- [Japan](#)
- [Jordan](#)
- [Kazakhstan](#)
- [Kenya](#)
- [Libya](#)
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- [Mauritius](#)
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- [Nigeria](#)
- [Pakistan](#)
- [Panama](#)
- [Paraguay](#)
- [Peru](#)
- [Philippines](#)
- [Russia](#)
- [Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)
- [Saint Lucia](#)
- [Saint Vincent and The Grenadines](#)
- [Serbia](#)
- [Singapore](#)
- [South Africa](#)

- [South Korea](#)
- [South Sudan](#)
- [Sri Lanka](#)
- [Sudan](#)
- [Taiwan](#)
- [Tanzania](#)
- [Thailand](#)
- [Trinidad and Tobago](#)
- [Turkey](#)
- [Turks and Caicos Islands](#)
- [Uganda](#)
- [Ukraine](#)
- [Uruguay](#)
- [Venezuela](#)
- [Vietnam](#)
- [Zimbabwe](#)

[If you're an international student from an eligible country, joining a one-year master's course, you could be eligible to apply for a Chevening Scholarship. If your application is successful, you could expect to have your master's fees paid, up to a maximum of £18,000, and receive additional help with living costs.](#)

CONSEJO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGIA (CONACYT) AWARD

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 30% discount on your tuition fees with a CONACyT Award.](#)

FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES (FIDERH) AWARD

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree and you're in receipt of a FIDERH graduate loan, you could be eligible to benefit from a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a FIDERH Award.](#)

FUNED AWARD

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a Mexican student joining a master's degree and you're in receipt of a FUNED loan, you can apply to be considered for a 20% tuition fee discount. A total of up to 50 awards will be available to master's and PhD students per academic year.](#)

HONG KONG GRADUATE ASSOCIATION & TUNG FOUNDATION POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- [International students](#)
- [China](#)
- [Hong Kong](#)

[If you're a master's student from Hong Kong or the People's Republic of China who can demonstrate academic excellence, you may be eligible to apply for a scholarship worth up to £10,000 in partnership with the Tung Foundation.](#)

HRH PRINCESS SIRINDHORN UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL SCHOLARSHIP (THAILAND)

- [International students](#)
- [Thailand](#)

[If you're a student from Thailand joining a one-year master's degree, you might be eligible to apply to have your tuition fees paid in full and receive help with living costs. One award is available and only students who are new to the University will be considered.](#)

JOHN LENNON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a UK student, either born in or with strong family connections to Merseyside, you could be eligible to apply for a fee discount of up to £4,500. You'll need to demonstrate an active interest in global, community and environmental issues to be considered.](#)

JUVENTUDES GTO SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)
- [Mexico](#)

[If you're a resident of the state of Guanajuato in Mexico joining a master's degree, you could be eligible for a 10% discount on your tuition fees with a JuventudEsGto Scholarship.](#)

KAPLAN DIGITAL PATHWAYS EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)

[Completed a Kaplan Digital Pathways Pre-Master's? We're offering a £5,000 fee discount off the first year of master's study for a maximum of two high achieving students joining one of our non-clinical master's courses from an online Kaplan Pre-Master's programme.](#)

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP

- [International students](#)
- [United States](#)

[If you're a USA student joining an eligible master's with us, you could be eligible to apply for a Marshall Scholarship. If your application is successful, your master's tuition fees will be paid in full. One Marshall Scholarship for master's study is available in each academic year.](#)

POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITY BURSARY

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a UK University of Liverpool graduate joining a master's degree with us, you could be eligible to receive £3,000 off your tuition fees. You must have graduated in the last two years and received a widening access scholarship during your undergraduate studies.](#)

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[SPORT LIVERPOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME](#)

- [Home and international students](#)

[Apply to receive tailored training support to enhance your sporting performance. Our athlete support package includes a range of benefits, from bespoke strength and conditioning training to physiotherapy sessions and one-to-one nutritional advice.](#)

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[THE AZIZ FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP](#)

- [Home students](#)

[If you're a British Muslim, active within a Muslim community and dedicated to bringing positive change to society, you could apply to potentially have the full cost of your master's tuition fees covered by an Aziz Foundation Scholarship.](#)

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[TURKISH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP](#)

- [International students](#)

- [Turkey](#)

[If you're a Turkish student joining a master's degree, you could be eligible to apply for a 20% discount on your tuition fees with a Turkish Ministry of Education Scholarship.](#)

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[UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP](#)

- [International students](#)

[Completed a Pre-Master's at University of Liverpool International College \(UoLIC\)? We're offering a £5,000 fee discount off the first year of master's study to some of the highest achieving students joining one of our non-clinical master's courses from UoLIC.](#)

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[UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE IMPACT PROGRESSION SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

- [International students](#)

[If you're a University of Liverpool International College student awarded a Kaplan Impact Scholarship, we'll also consider you for an Impact Progression Scholarship. If selected, you'll receive a fee discount worth £3,000 off the first year of your master's course.](#)

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[VICE-CHANCELLOR'S INTERNATIONAL ATTAINMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR MAINLAND CHINA](#)

- [International students](#)

- [China](#)

[Are you a high-achieving graduate from the People's Republic of China with a degree from a Chinese university? You could be eligible to apply for a £5,000 fee discount if you're joining an eligible master's course. Up to 15 eligible students will receive this scholarship.](#)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
Postgraduate entry requirements	<p>We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution.</p> <p>Applicants are required to submit a sample of written work (2,000–3,000 words). This can be an undergraduate essay or similar.</p>
International qualifications	<p>If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the University of Liverpool International College, in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MRes, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.</p>

THE ORIGINAL

REDBRICK