**JOURNALISM**

Thinking about future goals always put us in a web of confusions. What we really want to do in our life, what we gradually want to become. Every individual has different goals and career choices.

The pen is mightier than a sword. Journalism as a career is gathering the attention of the younger generation. While we talk about journalism, we think of news, reporting, broadcasting. Journalism connects the whole world.

**Why Journalism?**

Today, if we do not have the newspapers, television, the art of broadcasting news at our home, is it possible to stay connected with the world around us? No, our morning starts with the daily newspaper and on television, we watch different news channels. Journalism is a whole network of reporting, investigating and broadcasting of news whether political or social related to an audience. With increasing technology, we have the internet which we can easily access through our smartphones.

For reporting and broadcasting news, one needs a Journalist. A journalist work is referred to as journalism. A journalist has to collect report and broadcast news in the best possible way that attracts the audience. Journalism uses diverse media starting from print via newspapers, broadcast via television to digital media via websites and applications.

**What are the Education requirements?**

Education requirements vary depending on the field a student aspires to work in Journalism. Journalism courses are offered at graduate and postgraduate levels. To become a Journalist, one can complete the following graduate and postgraduate courses to work in the field of their choices.

1. ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN JOURNALISM

An Associate degree in Journalism helps you to gain an entry in the areas of your interest, it will provide you with the foundational knowledge necessary to communicate effectively and write critically. Any internship can add experience in your part. Associates Degree helps the journalist to write and communicate effectively in an unbiased manner. This program takes two years or less to complete as it focuses on English, writing as well as communication.

Career choice after Associates Degree:

* Newsroom reporting, both in print and online
* Social media
* Sports and fashion journalism
* Photojournalism
* Copywriting
* Advertising

2. BACHELORS DEGREE IN JOURNALISM

A Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism allows you to become professionals for writing and online publishing. It will make you learn outlines of publishing, dealing with the matters of public, putting them incorrect usage of words. It is a four-year program but at some universities, it is completed within three years.

Eligibility to pursue Bachelor’s degree is 10+2 and preferably from Arts background as it focuses on English writing and communication skills.

Career available after Bachelor’s Degree:

* Broadcasting (both local and national)
* Social Media Manager
* Sports Journalism
* Print Journalism
* Public Relations
* Photojournalism
* Marketing Manager
* Technical/Print Writing
* Professional Blogger

3. MASTERS DEGREE IN JOURNALISM

A Masters in Journalism will prepare you for high ranking positions such as leadership, national broadcasting, web designing. Master’s degree requires a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism to admit you. It will take two years to complete. A master’s degree allows you to be technologically advanced in reporting, writing and broadcasting. One can also take online classes of Masters

Career offered after Master’s Degree:

* Assignment Editor
* Copy Editor
* Foreign Correspondent
* Environmental Reporter
* Managing Editor
* Public Relations
* Marketing
* Content Producer
* Publications Specialist
* Technical Writer
* Investigative Reporter

4. ADDITIONAL COURSES AVAILABLE IN JOURNALISM

* Sports Journalism Career
* Freelance Writer
* Investigate Journalism
* Photojournalism
* Mass Communications
* Visual Communication
* Foreign correspondent

Entrance examinations for Journalism held every year in May-July for admission in Journalism institutes. The Entrance Examination includes written test comprised of objective and subjective questions followed up with Group discussion and Personal interview. One should have a good command over their language and current affairs in order to clear the entrance.

What kind of mind-set and skills are needed to become a journalist?

To become a journalist, certain skills are required which are:

* Inquisitive mind.
* Able to work for long hours within a tight deadline.
* Tactful and confident.
* Updated with current events.
* Good communications skills and Good flair of writing.
* Strong editing and proofreading skills.
* Ready to able to develop a story from any given source.
* Good presentation skills.
* Good understanding of blogs and different Brands.
* Must be able to find something relevant from irrelevant things.

Which are the top institutes for Journalism?

 Delhi University offers an undergraduate degree in Journalism and Mass Communication courses.

 Indian Institute of Journalism and New Media (IIJNM) Karnataka offers a graduate diploma in Print, Broadcast and Online/Multimedia Journalism.

* Asian College of Journalism in Chennai offer Post- Graduate Diploma Program.
* Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication in New Delhi offers Post Graduate Diploma in Mass Communication.
* The Symbiosis Institute of Mass Communication in Pune Post-Graduate Diploma Program in Mass Communication and also in Communication Management.
* Xavier Institute of Mass Communication in Mumbai offers Diploma courses in Journalism and Mass Communication.
* The Film and Television Institute of India at Pune offers Diploma courses and Certificates in all aspects of Film and Television Production.
* The TV Today Media Institute in Delhi offers Post-Graduate course in Television reporting, Copy Writing and News Production.

What is the future of Journalism?

The U.S Bureau of Labour Statistics reported that through the year span 2012-2022, there is an expected decline in employment of reporting and correspondence field is 14%. There is an expected decrease in newspaper readers. The BLS also reported that the printing press will come to decline while the best employees are available on the online print which is steadfastly growing in the era of technology. Internet helps us to get more connected with the world whichever language we want to read in. Technology had proved that it is more advanced and more connected with people, unlike newspapers.

Who is an Online Journalist?

You can also become an online Journalist. This kind of Journalism is very popular nowadays as laptops and tablets are very handy and easy access to the internet. In online Journalism, News can be reported in real-time as it happens; it also has graphic animations to make it more attractive. An online Journalist must be familiar with basic HTML and CMS programs and web production.

Transparency, creativity and inclusivity encapsulate the future of journalism. Online Journalism allows transparency and allows the public to have their voices heard among the masses.

Are newspapers really going to be shut down in India too?

In America, online printing has taken place of newspapers but in India, the newspaper industry is still booming. Not only India is selling newspaper in English but it has also started publishing in regional languages so that it can reach the maximum audience. There is not a single day when people have not to find a newspaper at their doorstep. It has increased the literacy rate because now people have access to their regional language.

In the West, the price of the newspaper is such that only upper class can afford two or three newspaper a day but in India, it is opposite as Newspaper is growing more than 10% per year in India, unlike any western country. The main reason behind it is the selling price of the newspaper is kept around or below Rs. 5, whereas the printing cost of one newspaper is around Rs. 15-20 in case of English daily. Indian newspaper can be delivered for Rs.120 a month which is much more accessible. Although, the internet is growing rapidly and its popularity is increasing day by day but still many people in India lack access to the internet. There are thousands of people who do not access the internet but are dependent solely on the newspaper. Advertisement is making the newspaper more affordable and attractive. There is a various advertisement for schools and jobs available that can help one to find their specific place. There are matrimonial ads in the newspaper with specific caste mentioned helped people to find a match for their children.