



MRes

Communication and Media

Study mode

Full-time
Part-time

Duration

12 months
24 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

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

Study in a department currently ranked within the world top 75 and 5th in the UK for Communication (Shanghai Global Rankings of Academic Subjects 2025).

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.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
RESEARCH RESOURCES (COMM701)	15

Optional modules	Credits
RESEARCH METHODS IN MEDIA & POLITICS (COMM747)	15
RESEARCH METHODS FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION (COMM523)	15
RESEARCHING CULTURE AND EVERYDAY LIFE (COMM760)	15
RESEARCHING SCREEN (COMM749)	15
INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE METHODS (COMM742)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
FEASIBILITY STUDY (COMM702)	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

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

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DISSERTATION (COMM704)	120

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

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.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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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.

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.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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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 – £5,238

Part-time place, per year – £2,619

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £25,350

Part-time place, per year – £12,650

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. The University may administer inflationary rises to international fees in subsequent academic years as you progress through the course.

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 paying for your studies**.

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.

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Entry requirements

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

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution.

Applicants are required to submit a sample of written work (2,000–3,000 words). This can be an undergraduate essay or similar.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

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.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 21, writing 21, reading 22 and speaking 23. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4.5 in writing and 4.0 or above in all other components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

120 overall, with literacy, production and conversation not less than 120, and comprehension not below 95

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with writing and speaking at 61, and no other skill below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with writing and speaking at 70, and no other skill below 60

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit overall, with B2 Pass with Merit in writing and speaking, and no band below B2 Pass

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) - 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards - 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or the equivalent score in selected other English language tests, to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Our Pre-sessional English courses vary from 6, 10, 12, 20, 30 or 40 weeks.

You can email us at elc@liverpool.ac.uk for advice on the length of Pre-sessional English course you require. Please let us know your most recent score in one of the following English language tests so we can assess your current English language ability:

- IELTS
- LanguageCert Academic
- Pearson PTE
- Skills for English
- Oxford Test for English
- Duolingo English Test

We'll be in touch to let you know the length of Pre-sessional English course you require. We'll also confirm whether you can study Pre-Sessional English on campus or online.

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