PA guide to publishing education in the UK
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Introduction

This is an exciting time to be entering the publishing industry and to be taking a degree in Publishing. Employers are looking for bright new talent with a mind-set which welcomes the possibilities offered by digital developments. In recent years there has been a large increase in the range of courses available at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, offering the opportunity to study the industry in depth and acquire relevant practical skills. Their links with publishers, various work experience schemes for students, and the rise of former students into management positions have undermined the traditionalist view that pre-entry vocational training is a waste of time. Attaining a BA or MA in Publishing does not guarantee a job in publishing but it substantially increases the chances – the established courses score impressive success rates. For more details on publishing degrees, see the website of the Association for Publishing Education: www.publishingeducation.org.

Publishing is undergoing a period of exhilarating transformation. At The Publishers Association, which is the representative voice for 115 of the UK’s leading publishing companies, we recognise that for the sector to take the fullest advantage of the opportunities of the digital age publishers need to attract, recruit and develop young people with the right skills to meet the demands of this developing environment. The core publishing skills will remain at the vital heart of our members’ work; but at the same time, new skills in developing digital products and services and processing the newly available sources of data on reader behaviour are also required. We are therefore delighted to be increasing our co-operation with the institutions in the Association for Publishing Education to help ensure that both the courses and companies have a mutual understanding of each other’s needs and services, to ensure a future workforce which can keep British publishing a world-leading sector in the digital age.
This course has been developed in close consultation with Cambridge University Press and other locally-based publishers such as ProQuest and Lutterworth’s to meet the needs both of those who wish to work in publishing. It is a professionally-focused MA, which aims to make our graduates highly employable individuals.

Our MA in Publishing consists of four taught modules taken over two years and a Major Project completed at the end of the taught part of the course. Teaching runs in two 12-week semesters from September to December (Modules one and two) and February to May (Modules three and four). The class meets weekly during the semester for a two-hour class which may be a lecture, seminar, workshop or masterclass. These modules are supported by skills-based short course options, as well as an events schedule of visiting speakers throughout the year which complement core taught classes.
University of the Arts
London

London College of Communication (LCC)
City of Media, Elephant & Castle
London SE1 6SB
w: www.lcc.arts.ac.uk/courses/courses-by-level/ma-publishing/

Senior Lecturer: Frania Hall
e: (f.hall@lcc.arts.ac.uk)

The course offers a holistic approach to the activities and processes of multi-platform publishing. It is creative, practical and entrepreneurial, focusing on ways to produce and monetise content, with a choice of specialism in the book or magazine sectors.

Combining expertise in the latest digital and print developments along with editorial, business and marketing knowledge, the course has strong industry contacts ensuring students gain practical skills and excellent networks to develop their publishing careers. We are part of an internationally renowned university for creative and communication industries.
This course aims to prepare you for a career in the publishing industry. The content is highly vocational and is often taught in our own fully operational, commercial publishing house, UCLan Publishing (the only course in the world to do this). You will work on all aspects of book publishing projects from commissioning, editing and production to marketing, publicity, sales and digital. We encourage creative and innovative thinking and research which we believe is essential to the future of the book industry. Modules are taught by professionals with industry experience and supported by direct input from professionals in the industry.

The first part of the course is intensive, equipping you with the technical skills to carry out publishing projects as well as providing a background to the industry. The second part is very practical, allowing you to test your new skills in a number of real publishing projects and through work experience placements.
City’s Publishing programmes offer top-quality academic MA s which also enhance the students’ career prospects in the highly competitive and rapidly evolving world of publishing. The students benefit from our location in the world capital of publishing as well as our increasingly global access to placement hosts, visitors and project sponsors. The teaching team combines expert researchers and publishing practitioners who offer both specialist expertise and up-to-date industry knowledge.

The programmes build an applied understanding of the traditional print value chain to inform the students’ skills and confidence as analysts and future professionals in interactive publishing environments. The MA assignments are varied and challenging, and include realistic industry projects and reflective portfolios in addition to analytical elements which prepare the students to complete a substantial dissertation or project related to trade, educational, academic, periodical or reference publishing.
Modern publishing needs graduates with both a practical insight into how this complex industry functions and a range of transferable skills. The Centre for Publishing MA aims to cover the entire spread of publishing disciplines, from fiction and trade to professional, academic, scholarly and educational. Teaching staff possess a wide range of book trade experience and networks of contacts across all fields in the UK and internationally.

The aim of the course is to equip students with a clear understanding of how modern publishing works and to give them the knowledge, confidence and abilities to move quickly in building a successful publishing career. The course is modular with an emphasis on practical skills and exercises based on the realities of working in a creative, fast-paced, and risky business environment. We want to help grow publishing leaders and innovators of the future.
Our MSc Publishing degree is the first and only publishing course to be accredited by the Periodicals Training Council, the lead body for best practice in training, development and people management for professional publishing. MSc Publishing has also been awarded the CREATIVE SKILLSET Tick, the industry kitemark of quality awarded to practice-based courses which best prepare students for a career in the industry.

Our intensive, research-based, practical and highly vocational postgraduate degrees will make you ideally placed to enter the publishing industry with advanced standing in the UK or overseas. Lectures, specialised workshops, intensive masterclasses and live publishing projects provide you with industry specific skills. An organised work placement enables you to test these skills in the workplace. With high employment figures, unparalleled accreditation and over 40 years of excellence in publishing education, our publishing programmes illustrate why Edinburgh Napier is one of Scotland’s top universities for graduate employability and one of the “top ten UK universities for getting a job” (The Telegraph, 2012).
DEGREES OFFERED
MA Publishing
MA Publishing and the Creative Economy
MA Publishing with Creative Writing
MA Publishing and Creative Writing

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
A second class degree or above, or equivalent and demonstrable enthusiasm for publishing. International students are required to have an IELTS score of 6.5 or an equivalent qualification.

“Kingston’s MA Publishing allowed me to turn my love of books into a career by providing an understanding of the business behind the books – and introducing me to my current employer.”

Andrew Turner, Marketing Executive at Nelson Croom, 2012 Chair of the Society of Young Publishers and Kingston MA Publishing graduate

Choose Kingston’s MA Publishing and you will benefit from:

- Experienced and widely published lecturers, masterclass speakers and industry supervisors
- Live publishing projects that develop your skills through hands-on publishing experience
- Outstanding support and advice to help you build industry contacts, hone your CV and gain valuable work experience
- Unrivalled publishing archives that open up rich opportunities for original research
- Diverse and international fellow students, who you can learn from and collaborate with
- Lively location close to the home of the global publishing industry.
Oxford Brookes University

The International Centre for Publishing Studies
2nd floor Buckley Building
Gipsy Lane Campus
Headington
Oxford OX3 OBP

Director: Angus Phillips
t: +44 (0)1865 484967
e: angus.phillips@brookes.ac.uk

The Oxford International Centre for Publishing Studies is one of the leading centres for publishing education in the world. Our students come from all over the world to study for both the BA and MA in Publishing in the largest department in Europe. Ranked first in the 2013 Sunday Times University Guide league table, Publishing at Oxford Brookes is the market leader. There is a large faculty staff with a variety of research interests, strong publication records, and extensive industry expertise. Our programmes are fully up to date with the latest digital developments.

- Excellent employment prospects – 96% employability for the MA in 2012
- Excellent teaching - 95% rating for student satisfaction in National Student Survey
- Our alumni have developed their careers across all sectors of publishing, including consumer, educational, academic, and magazines
- Unrivalled industry links and networking
- Oxford is a global publishing centre
- Unrivalled access to work experience

DEGREES OFFERED
MA Publishing
MA in Digital Publishing
MA in Publishing and Language
MA in International Publishing
MA in Book History and Publishing Culture
BA in Publishing Media

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
2:1 degree or above for Master’s programmes; British Council IELTS score of 7.00 for international students; minimum A level grades of BBB for BA degree
DEGREES OFFERED
Core award
MA Publishing
Specialist strands
Digital Futures
Design Commentary
Editorial Design
Illustration

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Core award
A first or 2:1 degree with honours or professional qualification, recognised as being equivalent to degree standard - in any discipline.

Specialist strands
A first or 2:1 degree with honours or professional qualification, recognised as being equivalent to degree standard - in a related discipline.

Ordinary/foundation degree, higher national/university diploma accompanied by substantial experience in appropriate field.

Applicants with overseas qualifications should check with NARIC.

MA Publishing at Plymouth brings together the key areas within the industry:

- Product development, commissioning, editing, production, marketing and distribution
- Publishing, communication and design writing research
- E-publishing, internet publishing, mobile app and e-book design
- Magazine design, book design, digital design and typography

Students work with the University Press and/or undertake work experience within national and international publishing organisations. The course has a vocational approach that enables students to appreciate the functions of the many trades and professions within contemporary publishing and align their study toward particular career opportunities within the industry. It aims to provide industry with post-graduates that possess a practical understanding of publishing, a key factor that greatly improves employability in a very competitive job market.
The Stirling Centre for International Publishing and Communication was established in 1982, and has since developed a global reputation for its postgraduate degrees in publishing, its research activities, and its industry links. Focusing on book, magazine, journal and digital publishing, the Centre trains the publishers of the future, provides opportunities for those currently working in the industry to reflect on their professional practice, and through its research, critically analyses the past, present and future of the publishing. Our programmes give students the practical experience they need to develop successful careers in publishing. Students benefit from:

- A lively international cohort of 30-35 students
- A wide choice of module options in digital, business and socio-cultural aspects of publishing
- Teaching from experienced staff and regular visiting speakers
- Activities including field trips, internships and attendance at publishing events in Stirling, Glasgow, Edinburgh and London
- Strong industry networks, including via our Industry Advisory Board.
Degree courses: undergraduate

A number of universities offer BA/BSc courses in publishing, sometimes as joint honours courses with another subject such as English or Media Studies, occasionally as single honours, or more frequently as options on other degree-level courses. The list below is not exhaustive and the courses offered can vary year by year.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Undergraduate course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bath Spa University <a href="http://www.bathspa.ac.uk">www.bathspa.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA/BSc (Hons) Publishing (Combined Award)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh Napier University <a href="http://www.napier.ac.uk">www.napier.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA (Hons) Publishing Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Hertfordshire <a href="http://www.herts.ac.uk">www.herts.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>English literature with New Media Publishing BA (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arts London: London College of Communication <a href="http://www.lcc.arts.ac.uk">www.lcc.arts.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA (Hons) Magazine Publishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loughborough University <a href="http://www.lboro.ac.uk">www.lboro.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA(Hons) Publishing with English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesex University London <a href="http://www.mdx.ac.uk">www.mdx.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA Journalism and Publishing Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Northampton <a href="http://www.northampton.ac.uk">www.northampton.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>Magazine Publishing (Joint Hons) BA/BSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford Brookes University <a href="http://www.brookes.ac.uk">www.brookes.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA Publishing (or Combined Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southampton Solent University <a href="http://www.solent.ac.uk">www.solent.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>BA (Hons) Publishing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Providers of training and events

There are a number of providers of publishing training courses and events in the UK. The following is a selection of them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.alpsp.org">www.alpsp.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Industry Communication</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bic.org.uk">www.bic.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imago Training</td>
<td><a href="http://www.imagotraining.co.uk">www.imagotraining.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London School of Publishing</td>
<td><a href="http://www.publishing-school.co.uk">www.publishing-school.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Scotland</td>
<td><a href="http://www.publishingscotland.org">www.publishingscotland.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publishing Training Centre (PTC)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.train4publishing.co.uk">www.train4publishing.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for Editors and Proofreaders</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sfep.org.uk">www.sfep.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society of Indexers</td>
<td><a href="http://www.indexers.org.uk">www.indexers.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society of Young Publishers</td>
<td><a href="http://thesyp.org.uk">http://thesyp.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFPL</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tfpl.com">www.tfpl.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in Publishing</td>
<td><a href="http://www.womeninpublishing.org.uk">www.womeninpublishing.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
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