

I'm a motivated journalism graduate with a First-Class Honours degree, Dean's list mention and a strong academic record that includes an in-depth study of media law, ethical and trauma informed reporting, hostile environment awareness training, and multimedia storytelling. I'm currently continuing my education and personal development through a Master of Journalism at Ulster University, Coleraine and an accompanying NCTJ Diploma due for completion in August 2025. I am eager to start building a career and my experience in investigative and watchdog journalism, focusing on stories that make a significant impact on the local community.

Although my practical experience is still developing, my academic achievements demonstrate my ability to research thoroughly and think critically which are key components of investigative journalism. My coursework, combined with leadership roles in community organizations, has equipped me with strong communication and analytical skills. I'm happy with remote working but I also hold a full manual driving license and access to my own reliable vehicle and am happy with travel.

Professional Experience

Belfast Pride Festival | **Board of Directors, Accessibility/Parade Manager** *Belfast | May 2017 - Present*

- Produced and maintained parade applicant database in accordance with data protection regulations.
- Collaborated in the planning and operation of a **70,000+ person festival** in Belfast City Centre.
- Maintained clear communication with Team Pride to ensure participant safety during parade.
- Produced and delivered Team Pride first aid, safety and onboarding sessions.

The OddBalls Foundation | **University Ambassador** *Northern Ireland | Sept 2023 - Present*

- Contributed towards **98,500+ school and youth group interactions** during 2023-2024 academic year.
- Spokesperson between service users and the Foundation through over the phone, email and face-to-face.
- Delivered interactive awareness session to large groups number upward of **150 young people**.
- Adapted to challenging situations including the age and learning ability of volunteers.

St John Ambulance (Northern Ireland) | **Emergency Ambulance Crew** *Northern Ireland | Sept 2005 - Present*

- Planned and delivered comprehensive first aid training to new volunteers accounting for learning needs.
- Liaised with stakeholders, emergency services, and service users.
- Developed and refined coping strategies for dynamic and high stress situations.
- Developed and refined empathetic ways of supporting patients and families in upsetting situations.
- Conducting hot and cold debriefs during and following traumatic taskings.
- Collaborated in the safe operation of a youth division by planning and delivering first aid training sessions.

Rushmere Shopping Centre, Craigavon | **CCTV Operator** *Craigavon | Oct 2015 - Present*

- Prioritised resources based on urgency with a focus on impact on safety, security and customer service.
- Delivered onboarding training to new team members.
- Processed CCTV surveillance in accordance with Security Industry Authority and Data Protection Act guidelines.
- Delivered prompt customer service and centre representation over the phone and face-to-face interactions with customers, tenants, contractors and stakeholders.

Education

Ulster University | Master of Arts Journalism and NCTJ Diploma

| *Sept 2024 – July 2025*

COURSE IN PROGRESS

Ulster University | Bachelor of Arts Journalism
First-Class Honours, Dean's List

| *Sept 2023 – July 2024*

Belfast Metropolitan College | BTEC HND Factual Television Production
Double Distinction

| *Sept 2019 – July 2021*

Hard skills

Fact-Checking and Verification | Multimedia Content Creation and Storytelling | IT and Cybersecurity Proficiency | Crisis and Disaster Management | Copywriting and Proofreading | Press Releases | Hostile Environment Awareness | Conflict Resolution | Content Management Systems | Social Media Management | Photography and Videography | Media Law and Ethical Reporting | Event and Project Management | Safeguarding | Advanced first and Intermediate Life Support | Canva |

Soft skills

Conflict Resolution | Public Speaking | Problem Solving | Effective communication | Active listening | Quick Learner | Critical thinking | Open-mindedness | Adaptability | | Time management | Internal and External Corporate Communication | Strategic Thinking | Cultural Awareness | Customer Service |

Projects

- o **Undergraduate Dissertation:** Researched and wrote on media mis- and disinformation and its societal impact.
- o **Post-Graduate Dissertation:** Planning to research and write on media law related topic (IN PROGRESS)

Interests

Outside of academia and work I enjoy running having completed several marathons with more planned, gym work, fiction reading (a current favorite is The Lost Fleet series by Jack Campbell), I'm currently volunteering with three charities covering healthcare and human rights, enjoy gaming, travelling (I integrated my marathons around my international travel) and am studying towards my intermediate amateur radio license. For the last few years, I've also been focusing on using and preserving legacy and vintage equipment such as 35mm cameras (I have a Canon A-1) and VHS-C cameras (I've a Philips Compact VHS-C I'm restoring).