

## MA Media and Communications CityChat session

### An opportunity to ask one of our Media and Communications students about studying the course and PG life here at City, University of London



Thank you for joining us this evening for the MA Media and Communications CityChat session. This evening we are joined by a current student who is on the Media and Communications course here at City, so do ask any questions about studying the course or life in general as a PG student here at City, University of London



I wanted to know what has been your experience so far with the MA program?



Hi - thank you for your question. My experience has been very positive so far. I feel like I have gained a deeper understanding of the media industry and have learned a lot about communication theories.



Hi - I am very excited but a little confused about the accommodation options. I am considering both, student accommodations as well as an apartment. Do you guys have any advice on which areas to look into or which accommodations are usually popular with grads?



Hi - There are plenty of options regarding accommodation so I completely understand why you are confused. City University offers great options for housing but there are private student accommodations as well. I, for instance, live in IQ Hoxton in Shoreditch. City University is located in Angel / Clerkenwell so it would make sense to look at these areas or anything close by (Shoreditch etc.) when looking for housing.



Are you or any of your fellow students studying this MA part-time? If so, how are they finding it? I'm 15 years into my career so would be finding time to study around working.



Hi - Plenty of students choose to study part time, as it is very beneficial to work next to studying. Most of my fellow students who are studying part time are very happy with their choice, as it allows them to take studying a bit slower while still working.



Hi - thanks for sharing your experience with us. Do you know how many students are studying the program every year, or how many students should I expect to see in class? Thanks.



Hi - we are about 25-30 students in the program.



Awesome! Thanks. Also, what's an average day in the life of a COM grad student like?



A lot of readings for class, meeting friends, enjoying the great city that is London 😊



Thanks, is the timetable for part-time students different? For example, are the lectures/seminars outside of usual office hours?



No, it is the same. So people schedule their work around that. Usually about 2-3 classes of about 1 1/2 per week.



Oh, the enter button is "send"! What I want to know, is if there are any online groups (such as a Facebook group) for MA media communication 18/19?



There definitely will be one.



What is the typical weekly workload like?



Readings of about 100 pages per week I would say. Depends on how many classes you are taking. Usually you have a chore class and can choose one elective class.



How many hours does one expect to average in team meetings? and how many hours of class do you think one should expect per day or week?



Usually about 2-3 classes of about 1 1/2 hours per class per week.



I would like to know more about the curriculum. How theoretical or practical is it?



Hi - it is very theoretical.



4.5 hours + travel time to/from the office is quite a lot a week. Do you know when the timetable is released for Sept 2018? Keen to see if I can fit studying around work life.



The timetables are released in September. It also depends on which classes you choose. It will be different for each person.



Hi - to give you a flavour of what the timetable looked like this year, please use this link [https://sws.city.ac.uk/tt1718/default.aspx?dm\\_t=0%2c0%2c0%2c0%2c0](https://sws.city.ac.uk/tt1718/default.aspx?dm_t=0%2c0%2c0%2c0%2c0)



Are there any student bodies or groups one can get involved in while at City?



There are plenty! There will be an activities fair where everything will be introduced to you.



Thanks! To your knowledge, what are some desired career paths of yourself/your fellow classmates?



Many people work in Journalism, Marketing, Social Media Marketing



Also, would you say it's better to stay in a student accommodation as opposed to in the city by yourself?



It is a personal choice and depends on what you prefer. I personally like living in student housing as I can meet people and have my own bathroom 😊



is there any scope for internship/work experience while studying full time?



Definitely. I believe you can manage to do a part time internship while studying full time. Or find work experience placements for a few weeks.



sounds good. How is the quality of the lectures?



The quality is very good. A lot of work is expected from students but you will learn a lot.



When should one begin to for internships/work experience?



As soon as possible I would say. As it takes time to apply etc.



Say on average 4.5 hours of class a week...what does one do for the rest of the time on campus?



You will have a lot of readings to do.



Will there be a fair or group where I can get used books for the lectures?



You will find every book you need in the library. Also, your professor will upload the pages on moodle.



What has been your experience with advisory/support for your dissertation? Any tips or advice? 😊



You will be allocated a dissertation supervisor who will help and guide you through your thesis. I think it makes sense to be in touch with your supervisor and ask him/her if you have any questions. After all they are there to help you!



Hi - thanks for all this great information. Can you tell me whether there any presentations in your courses or is it mostly just group work and individual study/reading?



Hi - there will be group presentations.



What are the relevant books/articles you would recommend to read in advance to get a general understanding regarding the program?



I do not think that it is necessary since your professor will tell you what to read in Week 1. But if you want to read something in advance I would recommend The History of Communication Media by Kittler (1996).



So when should we start looking for internships? now or once we're settled. Since we only have 4.5 hrs per week of class it seems we would have plenty of time?



Yes you will have time. I would recommend starting an internship perhaps in December, once you have settled in a bit. But you can definitely apply whenever you want -- even now.



Will we have access to the television and radio studios and/or professional gear rental services in order to experience the media production process?



No, that would be the journalism masters.



How's the free language course provided by the university? Are they planned for different levels? Do you find them useful?



Yes there are different levels. They are great, but it is tough to get in. It is allocated randomly among the students so you have to be lucky. (No first come first serve)



I Will be located at the Alliance House, do you know it? If yes, what do you think of it and how far away is it?



Yes, it is in Newington Green. They are spacious and in a good location. And the prices are great!



What about the sports facilities? Is the gym open for all students?



There is a gym for students, yes. 😊



2-3 classes of about 1 1/2 per week are for full-time or part-time students?



For full-time students.



How are students assessed?



There will be a written assignment of about 3,000 words in each class.



And what would be the deadline?



The deadline for winter semester is beginning of January and the deadline for the summer semester is the end of March.



Is there a mid-term exam?



No there are no exams.