

Am I skilled and talented enough to join URTV.F R journalism journey ?

The main positions in a journalism agency include :

- 1) **Journalist:** Responsible for gathering and writing news articles.
- 2) **Editor:** Responsible for overseeing content and ensuring quality.
- 3) **Photographer/Videographer:** Captures visual content for news stories.
- 4) **Reporter:** Gathers information and writes in-depth articles.
- 5) **Producer:** Manages content production and distribution.
- 6) **Fact-checker:** Ensures accuracy of news content.
- 7) **Social Media Manager:** Manages social media accounts and engagement.
- 8) **Web Editor:** Maintains and updates the website.
- 9) **Graphics Designer:** Creates visual content for news stories.
- 10) **Archivist:** Manages and organizes the agency's archives.

You might know some of the above positions or more than that, I sure hope that you are thinking about some unlisted ones and others you would like post firstly.

In this course we are going only to emphasize on our matters, a journalism.

who is a journalist ?

A journalist is a person who gathers information in the form of text, audio or pictures, processes it into a newsworthy form and disseminates it to the public. This is called journalism.

Roles

Journalists can be broadcast, print, advertising or public relations personnel. Depending on the form of journalism, "journalist" may also describe various categories of people by the roles they play in the process. These include reporters, correspondents, citizen journalist, editors, editorial writers, columnists and photojournalists.

A reporter is a type of journalist who researches, writes and reports on information in order to present using sources. This may entail conducting interviews, information-gathering and/or writing articles.

Reporters may split their time between working in a newsroom, from home or outside to witness events or interviewing people. Reporters may be assigned a specific beat (area of coverage).

Matthew C. Nisbet, who has written on science communication, has defined a "knowledge journalist" as a public intellectual who, like Walter Lippmann, Fareed Zakaria, Naomi Klein, Michael Pollan, and Andrew Revkin, sees their role as researching complicated issues of fact or science which most laymen would not have the time or access to information to research themselves, then communicating an accurate and understandable version to the public as a teacher and policy advisor.

In his best-known books, *Public Opinion* (1922) and *The Phantom Public* (1925), Lippmann argued that most people lacked the capacity, time and motivation to follow and analyze news of the many complex policy questions that troubled society. Nor did they often experience most social problems or directly access expert insights. These limitations were made worse by a news media that tended to oversimplify issues and to reinforce stereotypes, partisan viewpoints and prejudices. As a consequence, Lippmann believed that the public needed journalists like himself who could serve as expert analysts, guiding "citizens to a deeper understanding of what was really important".

In 2018, the United States Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook reported that employment for the category "reporters, correspondents and broadcast news analysts" will decline 9 percent between 2016 and 2026.

Note :

A good journalist should have the following qualities:

- [Accurate](#)
especially of information, measurements, or predictions) correct in all details; exact:
"accurate information about the illness is essential" · "an accurate assessment"
(of an instrument or method) capable of giving accurate information:
- [Trusted](#)
in the sense of faithful -- Definition consistently reliable
loyal, true, committed, constant, attached, devoted, dedicated, reliable,
- [Easy to understand](#)
easy to understand or do; not difficult or complicated: The recipe is very simple.
- Straight
[continuing](#) in one [direction](#) without [bending](#) or [curving](#):
- Totally committed to finding original stories and telling them in a way that makes sense to the audience
.....
- Aware
.....
- Disciplined
.....
- Realistic
.....
- Contactable
.....
- Passionate
.....
- Goal-oriented
.....
- Open-minded
.....
- Optimistic

10 suggestions for journalistic success

Hard work and self-discipline are at the heart of good journalism.

Journalists should be accurate, first with news, trusted, easy to understand, straight, aware, disciplined and realistic.

They should always be contactable, and totally committed to finding original stories and telling them in a way that makes sense to the audience.

Here are a few tips from a lifetime of trying to get it right.

1: Be right

You are offering your journalism as a thing to be trusted. You have to build up trust with your readers, listeners and viewers. They want to know that they can rely on you to be accurate. Accuracy is the most important quality – even more than timeliness. Better to be second and right than first and wrong. But better still to be first and right.

2: Be first

Journalism is, by definition, timely. The best way to be timely is to be first. What's the point of telling people things they already know? You are there to tell them things they don't know. So chase that news and get it first.

3: Stick to what you know

It's vital to stick to the facts that you know. Often you need more facts than you've so far gathered in order to tell a story properly. Instead, you may have only an incomplete picture. It's unsatisfactory and frustrating. But don't be tempted to speculate or – even worse – imply things you're not sure about. Get the story out there in terms that you know to be true. You can develop it later.

4: Keep it simple

Journalism is not art. It's important to present the story in an interesting way – but don't waste time trying to fashion fancy sentences. Use simple language that tells the story as clearly and unambiguously as possible. Keep the sentences short. Be logical in the way you order the facts. Don't impose on your viewers or readers or listeners. Make it easy for them to digest the information.

5: Play it straight

Journalism is a competitive business. Sometimes you'll be tempted to cut corners. Don't do it. Your trustworthiness is your main asset. Keep the journalism scrupulously accurate and your personal conduct ethical. Don't do the dirty on your competitors – even if they do it to you. Always maintain your standards.

6: Know your market

Journalism is always aimed at someone. Who makes up your target audience? How old are they? Where do they live? Where do they work? What are their lives like? What interests them? What are they worried about? What do they want to know? What information do they need to take a full part in society? Remember you're there to serve them – not to impress your peer group.

7: Be aware of the competition

Competition is what keeps us on our toes. With a bit of luck it will keep us honest. Always watch what the competition is doing. Judge yourself against its output. Try all the time to be better – get your stories faster, tell them better, find more interesting angles.

Be willing to learn from the competition when it does a better job.

8: Be disciplined

There are all kinds of deadlines. With breaking news, the deadline is now: you've got to get the information out straight away, usually in very brief form, and add to it as soon as you get more.

Then there are the fixed deadlines for TV and radio bulletins, and newspaper print runs. Respect them. An item for the top of the One O'Clock News is no good if it's not ready until one minute past.

A page lead for a newspaper is no good if you can't get it into print in time to catch the delivery trucks. If you can't meet deadlines, you are not fit for the job.

9: Be realistic

Think of when the story has got to be ready and think of everything that's needed to make it work.

Figure out how much time you can allow for each stage. Don't set yourself impossible deadlines. Build in a bit of a margin, for safety.

Deliver early if you can – but don't sacrifice important content.

10: Keep in touch

Never underestimate the importance of good communications.

It's no use having a story if you can't communicate it. Always know exactly how you're going to be in touch with the office, whether it is by mobile phone, land-line, the internet, satellite phone or broadcast circuit.

Whatever it is, try to have a backup.

Check and double-check your communications.

Top 10 Skills and Qualities Needed to Be a Journalist

Journalism is a thrilling career with numerous paths to follow, including television, press and digital media. So, if you're passionate about sharing information with the world, then this is an exciting field with plentiful opportunities.

However, with this being a cutthroat industry, for you to succeed, you must possess a certain versatility and adroitness that will set you apart from the competition. Below, we consider some of the most important skills and traits you should master as an aspiring journalist.

1. Attention to detail

What separates a good journalist from a great one is their ability to notice the details that others may overlook.

When covering a topic, you must be meticulous and thorough, ensuring that your work encompasses the most important information accurately and honestly.

Furthermore, when reviewing your work, you must ensure there aren't any inaccuracies or mistakes; a wrong date, name or term could completely skew your work, causing a backlash for your publication and yourself.

This is especially true for investigative and news journalists but is necessary for any type of journalism you may be interested in.

Consequently, having a keen eye for detail is a must in this line of work.

2. Research skills

As a journalist, you will be required to conduct thorough research on a diverse number of subjects. Having excellent research skills entails being able to find and select reliable resources, evaluate the data you have gathered, and render all of this information in a comprehensive and attractive way for your audience.

What is more, this process needs to be undertaken within a tight timeframe to ensure that your story remains relevant by the time of publication. Therefore, honing your research skills should be a priority for you as a budding journalist.

3. Ethical awareness

Journalism is a competitive profession, with publications and news channels grappling to be the leading news source for their audience. Despite the pressure to deliver the most provocative and interesting stories to light, adhering to journalistic ethics and standards rather than prioritizing commercial or political considerations is crucial.

This means that your work should always be fair, accurate, objective and honest, as well as clear of any personal biases that may influence your reporting.

Being committed to maintaining your journalistic integrity will make you better at what you do, as you will be able to convey information truthfully and transparently.

4. Written skills

If you want to distinguish yourself from your peers, your writing skills will play an important part. Depending on the type of journalism you are interested in, your writing style and tone will vary. For example, news journalists' stories must be factual, concise and well-structured, while column journalists can incorporate their voice and opinions into their writing, allowing them to showcase their personality and a unique angle within their pieces.

That said, knowledge of grammar and punctuation, accuracy, and the ability to simplify information in a digestible manner within your writing is a necessity for all journalists. Consequently, being a skilled writer could help set you apart and allow you to establish yourself within the field.

5. Creativity

Being a creative journalist means being able to come up with interesting and compelling stories, find unique angles to existing topics, present information in an engaging manner, and capture your audience through your approach to a subject.

While creativity often comes naturally to some, it is also a skill that can be sharpened through experience and active effort.

A good way to be more creative in your journalistic endeavors is to take a page out of other journalists' pieces and reports that you admire, studying the ways they have broached news in the past and gaining insight into their professional processes.

6. Digital literacy

In this day and age, digital literacy has become a requisite for any career path. Being digitally literate means that you can utilize digital technologies, including social media and online platforms, safely and responsibly. What is more, it allows for active participation in and communication through such platforms in creative and meaningful ways.

For journalists, digital literacy allows them to find, analyze and evaluate sources and information they come across online. This entails being able to spot fake news and false data, ensuring that your work is both credible and accurate when reporting on developing stories.

7. Interpersonal skills

Having good interpersonal skills as a journalist will allow you to build strong relationships and form solid connections with everyone you work with. Indeed, interpersonal skills indicate that you are a good communicator who can effectively interact with others.

For example, when interviewing a source, you will be able to connect with them, helping them feel comfortable and safe, which in turn could produce more insightful and informative stories. Having honed interpersonal skills also means being a good listener and hence being able to pick up on minor details that could make all the difference in a news report or story.

8. Persistence

Journalism can be a challenging career. For you to succeed, you will need persistence and determination. When investigating a story, you may come across several obstacles, from unwilling sources to peer competition to unpredictable hours, all of which will require you to press on to complete your assignment.

If you are determined to make a name for yourself as a journalist, you must be prepared to face the challenges that you may meet along the way, and find the determination to keep moving forward.

9. Confidence

Confidence is key for this career path. For example, when conducting interviews, you need to be confident in yourself to ask important questions and propel the conversation forward; it is up to you to get a source talking and sharing information that will be valuable to your story.

As this career requires a lot of independent work and research, your confidence in your skills and knowledge will be a driving force that will accelerate your professional trajectory.

That said, confidence is also something that you will gradually build as you gain more experience in the field, but boldness and self-assurance will be essential as you take your first steps, too.

10. Curiosity

An important trait of every journalist is their natural curiosity for diverse topics. Throughout your professional journey, you will be required to report on numerous stories about a myriad of subjects, and you will need to find the best way to make them compelling to your audience.

Your curiosity is what will drive you forward, helping you dig out the most important information. What is more, being a curious person will encourage you to ask the right questions and seek answers, resulting in more creative and engaging work from you.

Final thoughts

Journalism is an ever-evolving field that is ripe with professional opportunities. Nevertheless, to set yourself apart and succeed, you must hone your craft and develop expertise.

Having a diverse range of technical, soft and hard skills will give you a head-start and set you on the right path.

This is not just the case for budding journalists but for seasoned professionals alike, as to stay relevant and keep up with this fast-paced industry, you will need to embrace agile learning and keep ahead of the curve.

Can you think of any skills and qualities essential for budding journalists?