

Module	Radio Production 2
Course code	BACH-RP2
Credits	5
Important Notes	Some previous radio media experience is required
Allocation of marks	100% Continuous Assessment

Module aims and objectives

This module is designed to build on learner's knowledge of radio production and broadcasting, to enable them to greatly improve on their existing skills and prepare them fully to work in a professional broadcast environment with an emphasis on production, research, reporting and presentation. Documentary making is also part of this curriculum. A key component is advanced writing for radio. Learners also advance their technical skills in a major way both in studio and outside broadcasting. Learners also increase their skills in MoJo or Mobile Journalism that is recording, editing and uploading material on to their mobile phones.

Minimum intended module learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, the learner will be able to:

- (i) Produce a professional radio programme to excellent standards.
- (ii) Produce, plan, and write scripts and briefs for a professional radio programme.
- (iii) Prioritise stories especially for news, make good editorial decisions, and recognise good content.
- (iv) Craft radio packages and reports. Be able to operate a studio sound desk, all to high industry standards.
- (v) Demonstrate a professional understanding of news and current affairs, arts and light entertainment content.
- (vi) Apply an excellent working knowledge and proficiency in the radio studio environment with special reference to technical skills.

Module content, organisation and structure

The following is Indicative

Topics covered by Broadcast Sound Production and Digital Editing Tutor;

- Adobe Audition multitrack session including create session, save session, block-editing, block edge dragging, audio adjustment and mix down.
- Advanced Adobe Audition including sound effects; how, when where. Mixing, overlaps, drop in and mix-pasting.
- Advanced studio desk operation including application of equalization, gain, crossfading music and speech and sound adjustment during live broadcasting.
- Basic recording and editing of live programmes for podcast inclusion using EBR Cart Pro and Adobe Audition.
- Advanced EBR Cart Pro automation including creation of music and jingle file base, creation and application of programme schedule and removal and addition of audio during live broadcast.

- Advanced portable recording techniques including detailed menu setup, location recording, creating voxpops, and transfer of audio to digital editing platforms, hints, tips and shortcuts.
- Advanced studio control techniques including control room and talk room communication during live broadcast, who should be in the studio and role of individual production team members.

Topics covered by Content, News, Writing and Production Lecturer;

- What makes an excellent radio programme: Content, stories, contributors, sources, contacts, production, research, presentation, the use and misuse of the vox pop, music and clips.
- Writing for Radio: Briefs, Scripting, Running Orders
- How to be a good researcher. The importance of facts. Knowing your sources.
- Fake News and the Post Truth Society.
- Ethics in Journalism and Free Speech. What can you not say?
- How a News Room is organised. Different functions and roles. How news is gathered.
- In depth, in class preparation for assignments. How to make good editorial decisions on what to include, what to exclude, in your programme especially on a busy news day. How to include clips. Learners are given guidance and support in the making of their programmes. On completion of the assignment as a live radio programme, learners and teams are given detailed feedback on their programme and how they functioned as a team.
- Different types of interview require different skills: Interviewing for News, the personal story interview etc.
- The Myth of Objectivity

Topics covered by Short Features, Reports and Documentary Lecturer;

RADIO SHOULD SOUND BETTER!

Telling stories in a different way through the medium of radio documentary and drama.

This lecture examines the broadcast landscape in Ireland with regards to radio documentary, and explore ways to create ground-breaking radio that resonates.

- What is documentary?
- The Challenge of Making Good Radio...
- The role of Documentary
- Styles and Forms
- Long-form immersive storytelling in a fast news cycle
- The future of documentary... Broadcasting platforms etc.
- Generating transferable skills through documentary making
- Using your completed documentary as a calling card to generate future income

IDEA GENERATION FOR DOCUMENTARY (Advanced)

- How to generate original ideas and treatments that resonate

RADIO DOCUMENTARY: WHO WILL TELL MY STORY? (Advanced)

- Sourcing and securing contributors
- Finding original voices
- Ethics and best practice around using contributors
- Managing the relationship with contributors

PITCHING A DOCUMENTARY TO A RADIO STATION

- Synopsis
- Treatment
- Sourcing and securing Contributors
- Running Order
- Describing sound as a way to make your pitch come alive
- Finding the right home for your documentary/Linking to Listenership
- Securing your commitment to broadcast
- Developing relationships with broadcasters

PLANNING A DOCUMENTARY:

- Planning the programme in advance
- Storyboarding/Structuring the story
- Considering the style of the programme
- Planning the pace of the programme
- How will the programme sound?
- Where will I record? Location/studio
- Vox/Round-table discussion/One-on-one
- Best practice with File Management/Best practice with recording
- Budgeting/Team Management
- Tips for recording abroad (planning/language barriers/finding local allies)

USING SOUND IN DOCUMENTARY (Advanced)

- Editing style
- Creating a Sense of Place
- Using Silence...
- Creating Soundscapes
- Breaking the form
- Transitions
- Dialogue and Narration
- SFX
- Location Sound
- Music

GETTING FUNDED

From Idea to application: How to successfully access funding for radio documentary & drama from various broadcast funding schemes in Ireland including

- The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland Sound and Vision Scheme,
- The Simon Cumbers Scheme
- The Mary Raftery Journalism Fund
- Crowd-funding and guerrilla funding

ETHICAL JOURNALISM IN THE CONTEXT OF DOCUMENTARY: (Advanced)

- Representation
- The role of documentary in bringing diversity to the airwaves
- Telling stories from the margins
- Taste and Decency
- Radio vocabulary: Best practice in broadcasting around sensitive issues

THE FUTURE OF RADIO: (Advanced)

- Exploring trends in radio: The rise of Podcasting/Mobile Journalism/Digital and Online Journalism/New platforms for broadcasting
- Advanced Mobile Journalism
- Look who's talking: Selling sound with the visual

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