

May 2008

## **International Semester Programme** ***Journalism, Multimedia and Stereotypes***

### **at The Danish School of Journalism**

**Spring semesters: February - June**

**Fall semesters: August - December**

The semester in Denmark combines journalistic training with intensive study. In the course of an intensive one-semester program you do international reporting, EU reporting, learn about risk reporting and expand your view on stereotypes. The work concludes in an individual multi-media production based on a research travel in or outside Denmark.

As a result of this semester you can achieve the following goals:

Take your expressional skills to a new level by incorporating multimedia elements in your journalism. This is done by combining text, audio, video and photos in an online environment

Master basic methods in news journalism with focus on environmental and climate issues, and knowledge of specific methods in global journalism and international newsgathering

Enhance awareness of how stereotypes, national stereotypes in particular, are used in the media. Where they come from and which role they play, and how to avoid them

Attain working knowledge of the risk reporter's tools of trade and working conditions in areas of crises and conflict and understand important aspects of the media's role in modern conflict

Increased knowledge of EU affairs in general and in specific of EU-reporting issues like the environment. Knowledge about EU institutions, decision-making processes and how to work as a correspondent inside and outside Bruxelles

Experience being a correspondent in Denmark and Europe. Grow as a prospective journalist by working and studying in an atmosphere that combines practical teaching with academic study

Create life long professional and personal bonds by being part of an international group of students from all over the world

## **Study Load**

<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>ECTS</b>
Introduction		
International Newsgathering	120	6
EU Workshop	120	6
Stereotypes	120	6
Risk Reporting	120	6
Final project	120	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>30</b>

## **Grading and attendance**

The programme is a full course load semester programme run in English. All courses are graded passed/not passed. If grades are needed for academic credit at your home institution all courses may be graded. If you need grades, please inform the DSJ International Department before the beginning of the course.

Students' activities are graded based on active attendance at lectures, preparation for the lectures, written assignments, respect for deadlines and examinations - including being punctual for lessons and activity in the group work. Lecturers use the Danish grading system and transfer it to the ECTS grading system or to the national grading system of the student. If a student's work is insufficient, the student has one extra opportunity to improve his/her work.

Due to the working style at the Danish School of Journalism, where group work and coaching are given high priority, students are expected to attend all classes. If, for some reason, an absence is unavoidable, students must inform the Danish School of Journalism beforehand. In order to pass a course, a student must attend all classes. Exceptions can be made for medical reasons with the appropriate documentation and if arrangements are made with the teacher.

## **Course fee and admission**

The International Semester programme is open to journalism students from all over the world. Former students have come from: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Brasilia, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, HongKong, Iceland, Korea, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Rumania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA and Usbekistan.

Participants must have a good command of the English language, both written and oral. Students must be in at least their second year of journalism education and more than 19 years old when they participate in the International Semester Programme.

Furthermore, it is very important that students are interested in working with international relations and want to co-operate with journalism students from other countries.

There is no extra course fee for exchange students.

## **How to apply**

See [www.djh.dk/international](http://www.djh.dk/international) for application forms

You are welcome to contact:

Inger Munk [imu@djh.dk](mailto:imu@djh.dk) or Anna Nejrup [anna@djh.dk](mailto:anna@djh.dk) for any information

**Deadline for application:** 15 April for fall semesters  
15 October for spring semesters

## Alumni

See [www.djh.dk/europe/international](http://www.djh.dk/europe/international) for an alumni site of former participants in the International Semester Programme. Former and present students are asked to write for the website.

## Comments from foreign students who participated in the programme

"The European semester was a life-changing venture, I'm not satisfied with what I was before", Charmaine Smith, USA.

"I have made my articles in spite of the language difficulties. If I am able to do research in Denmark, I can research in any country. And this is valuable for me when I start looking for a job in the States", Anthony W. Eufinger, USA.

"It has changed my life. I am really happy to have participated in this programme. To work with the Danish participants was very important for this success. It has given me the taste, the desire to work with international relations and certainly EU matters. The multimedia production was also a great idea for a future way of working." Frederic Maes, Belgium.

"The best thing about the programme was the opportunity to work with students from different countries. The programme was well structured and organized. You can tell that this was not the first time a programme like this has been arranged." Mette Maria Røsen, Norway.

"I really enjoyed my semester at DSJ. I do not think many Canadians study in Denmark, so the culture shock is a healthy thing. Being exposed to a different style of teaching/learning is a really good thing," Angela Johnston, Canada.

"The best thing about the course was the practical work, the detailed feedbacks and the well organised structure."  
Tina Wender, Germany.

"I was challenged as a journalist in ways that I have not been challenged before. I came away from each workshop feeling that I had learned more about international journalism and had improved my journalism skills."  
Nadia Chiesa, Canada.

## Programme description

The international semester programme runs every semester. Please notice that course content and teachers will change from semester to semester. The following gives a draft overview of the semester.

### **Media platform: *Multimedia online journalism***

Throughout the semester there will be a special focus on use of multimedia, aiming to give the students the ability to choose and mix freely between print, audio, video and photos in their journalistic output. All students will be introduced to basic principles of photography as well as to recording and editing digital sound and video. The multimedia elements are published on the web in the DSJ online publishing system.

*Please note that we recommend that you bring your own digital camera (a normal "tourist" quality camera is fine).*

### **Overall Theme: *Journalism and Stereotypes***

The semester in Denmark offers you a chance to combine journalistic training with intensive study. The programme focuses on journalism, stereotypes and new media.

#### **Aims**

- Acquire a transnational perspective on issues that are of critical importance in today's society: national, regional and global
- Enhance journalistic awareness of national versus international reporting
- Give inspiration to work internationally
- Build a solid professional foundation for future careers in journalism

#### **Learning outcomes**

Knowledge and understanding of:

- methods and practices in key journalistic areas
- the role of the journalist in a global society
- the impact of culture and identity on the practice of journalism

#### **Skills**

Students will be able to:

- structure, plan and carry out journalistic research at the international level
- communicate effectively with a diverse audience
- identify new and critical angles in traditional stories
- utilize internet technologies for the production of journalistic stories
- manage resources and time effectively
- work in a self-organized way, individually and in groups

## The journalistic learning process

The International Semester Programme aims to build and improve the ability of the students in handling the three journalistic genres: basic news journalism, feature and news oriented background article.

The semester is planned as an integrated learning process with reflecting news coverage on a multimedia platform as the starting point. The participating students will achieve journalistic capacity in identifying news values, news angles and the most relevant sources build on their own journalistic initiatives and research. During the semester the repertoire of journalistic genres will be expanded gradually. Facts and statements from verbal and printed sources are to be confronted and combined based on critical analyses and background oriented approaches.

Feature, news feature and essay in print, sound slides and video will be introduced as journalistic tools for a multimedia coverage targeted individuals more than citizens. In the final project each of the students must document a remarkable improvement of journalistic capacity as a result of their own learning process.

### **Course:** Introduction programme

**Lecturers:** Head of International Programmes, Inger Munk  
and guest lecturers

**Duration:** 1 week - full time

**Graded:** passed/not passed

**Participants:** International and Danish students

### **Outline:**

This course gives students an overall introduction, where, among other things, they are introduced to Denmark and Europe through an examination of core public issues such as politics, institutions, culture and media. The students will also get a very basic course in survival Danish.

The objective is to ensure that the students receive an insight into political, economical, social and cultural aspects of Danish society and European institutions and that they quickly become familiar with their new environment.

### **Topics**

Introduction to the programme

Introduction to teaching methods, library and equipment at DSJ

Cultural introduction to the Danish people and language

Introduction to Danish politics and the welfare system including an excursion to the City

Hall with an introduction to the environmental policies of the municipality

Introduction to Danish media

Introduction to the International Student Centre

Introduction to basic video and photo techniques

## Literature

A reader will be available to the students.

## Course: **International Newsgathering – Environmental Reporting**

<b>Lectures:</b>	Ass. Professor Asbjørn Slot Jørgensen and guest lecturers
<b>ECTS:</b>	6
<b>Duration:</b>	3 weeks and 2 days – full time
<b>Graded:</b>	Passed/not passed
<b>Study tour:</b>	To Copenhagen. 3 nights. Expenses for the excursion is approximate DKK 300 for travel + living expenses. At students own expenses.
<b>Participants:</b>	International and Danish students

### Aims

The international newsgathering workshop aims to:

- Enable the students to master basic methods in news journalism. The focus will be on breaking international news, and environmental and climate issues
- Introduce and discuss specific methods in how to report international news from a foreign country
- Give an overview of the global news circle
- Introduce and train print journalism combined with video journalism as methods in international news journalism

### Learning outcomes

#### *Knowledge*

- Know the methods in news reporting: The basic news story, news values and story structures in news
- Know the largest international actors in the global news circle and how they work
- Know the International Press Centre in Copenhagen and how a large Danish news room works with international news

#### *Understanding*

- Understand news criteria, news values and news judgement
- Understand both the normative in news journalism and the specific methods in international newsgathering

### Skills

#### *Discipline specific*

- The students will be able to chose and produce foreign news stories by using the most relevant news criteria and story structures
- They will train and gain methods in gathering news, facts and statements in a foreign country

- They will know how to find and use relevant international news agencies and websites as background and sources for information
- They will know how to produce news video sequences for a multimedia website

#### *Transferable*

- The students will gain a good understanding of how to work with breaking news and foreign news from around the world and out of Denmark. The students will also gain experiences with video journalism as a tool in international news reporting.

## **Course: Reporting the EU from Inside and outside Brussels**

<b>Lecturers:</b>	Ass. Professor John Frølich, Chester Folming and guest lecturers
<b>ECTS:</b>	6
<b>Duration:</b>	3 weeks - full time (follows a three days introduction to interview techniques and sound)
<b>Graded:</b>	passed/not passed
<b>Study Tour:</b>	about ten days to Brussels. Expenses: Max DKK 2000 for hotel. Furthermore travel and living expenses. At students' own expenses
<b>Participants:</b>	International and Danish students

### **Aims**

The primary aims of the workshop are:

- To provide the inspiration to work journalistically with the EU and to study selected areas and themes within Europe like the environment
  - To learn how to practice the elements of EU-reporting
- To learn about EU institutions and decision-making processes in the EU

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the module students are expected to have achieved:

#### *Knowledge*

- Know how to develop ideas and how to plan the EU-reporting
- Know how to identify sources for EU-reporting
- Know the role and the competence of different EU-institutions such as The European Commission, The European Parliament and the Council of Ministers
- Know what you can do as a journalist inside and outside the Belgian capital (sources and research possibilities)
- Know what you can do as a journalist inside and outside the Belgian capital (sources and research possibilities) spring semesters

#### *Understanding*

- Understanding the nature of the national press coverage of the EU as it is in different EU member states



### *Discipline specific*

- Be able to detect media practises that leads to uncritical use of stereotypes.
- Be able to produce soundslides without the use of negative stereotypes
- Be able to collaborate with (photo)journalists in a productive way

### *Transferable*

- The students will gain a good understanding of the importance of acknowledging their own cultural and personal background and its influence on their judgements when performing as journalists and photojournalists.

## **Course: Risk Reporting**

<b>Lecturers:</b>	Ass Professor Jesper Strudsholm and guest lecturers
<b>ECTS:</b>	6
<b>Duration:</b>	3 weeks except 2 days - full time
<b>Graded:</b>	passed/not passed
<b>Participants:</b>	International and Danish students

### **Aims**

- To give the students a good working knowledge of the risk reporter's tools of trade & working conditions in areas of crises and conflict
- To enable the students to analyse and understand important aspects of the media's role in modern conflict

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the module students are expected to have achieved:

#### *Knowledge*

- Comprehend specific case studies of conflict and crises reporting

#### *Understanding*

- To recognise the various forms of stereotyping often at play when the international news media assemble to cover a crises or conflict story
- Understand the importance of balanced reporting and accuracy in risk reporting
- Understand the value of reporting positive and pro-active individual case stories in the midst of crises, conflict and misery

### **Skills**

#### *Discipline specific*

- Handle all aspects of planning a trip to an area affected by crises or conflict
- To critically analyse news reports emerging from crises or conflict areas and to be able to piece together an adequate situation assessment from several news sources

### *Transferable*

- Strengthened analytical insight into the international newsflow.
- Strengthened confidence in own observational powers

## **Final Project**

### **Supervisors**

Ass. Professor Annette Holm, ass. professor John Frølich, ass. professor Asbjørn Slot Jørgensen, it- development executive Chester Folming.

### **Production time span**

The semester concludes in an individual multimedia production. The production follows a research and travel period. Upon return to DSJ the students will put the project together in an online multimedia production. All together, travel and production period is approximately three weeks for the finishing project.

### **Requirements**

At the heart of the multimedia project lies a journalistic text, either a feature story or a background story consisting of 1200-1500 words supplementet by at least two of the following multimedia elements:

- Photo: Still photo
- Sound: Interview or other relevant audio, edited and made available online in one or more mp3-clips.
- Video: One or more items of edited video (maximum 2 minutes each). Published online as Quicktime movies.
- Slideshow: Flash based photo slideshow with accompanying sound either as interview, narrative, background sound or royalty free music. Maximum 3 minutes.

For online presentational purposes, the textual part of the story can be split up into several chunks.

Part of the project is a work report.

The project must be published as webpages with multimedia elements in Medianet, the DSJ online publishing system.

### **Work form**

The students are encouraged to collaborate in groups on the finishing project. This can ease the combined challenges of research and travel in foreign environments. However, at the final evaluation each student will be evaluated primarily on the basis of his or her own work. It follows that students working in groups must make sure, that the work of each group member is clearly distinguishable. The above mentioned requirements always apply for each individual student. Each student gets a written evaluation and a grade.

### **Coaching and subject approval**

Prior to the travel period one or more of the workshop teachers will be available for coaching and feed back on the students choice of subject for their finishing project. Students are required to hand in a brief outline of their project idea before the travel period. The outline is prepared during the research week. Students with a stipend from the EU-Australia GEJI project must produce the final project within the global environmental theme

### **Travel Period**

The travel period can take place both in Denmark and other countries in Europe. Travel expenses in the Nordic countries outside Denmark may be supported by the Nordplus programme.

### **Additional lectures and courses**

Guest lectures at the Danish School of Journalism will be offered in the programme. There will be the possibility for excursions and for travel for reporting projects. (At students' own expense).

## **The International Semester Programme**

An international programme in English for advanced undergraduate journalism students in Århus, Denmark during the semester August - December or February – June.

The International semester Programme is offered every semester by:  
Danish School of Journalism  
Olof Palmes Allé 11  
DK-8200 Århus N  
Denmark

Program coordinator: Inger Munk  
Assistance: Anna Nejrup

phone: # 45-89 440 440  
fax: # 45-8616 8910  
e-mail: imu@djh.dk / anna@djh.dk  
website: [www.djh.dk/international](http://www.djh.dk/international)

## **Facilities at the Danish School of Journalism**

### **Phone**

We expect that you have a mobile phone when you arrive, and that you buy phone cards for your mobile upon arrival. The mobile is an important part of your journalistic equipment. A more expensive opportunity is that you buy phone cards to use on the school phones in the basement. They can be purchased at the information desk. For long distance calls, we advise students to buy global cards/other cards or use skype. The phone expenses will probably be the highest expenses you have for material, since you only have to buy a few books, and the copied material will be given you for free.

**Fax:**

Students can send and receive faxes at the student fax in front of the information desk, using copy cards (fax number 86 16 19 24)

**Computers and e-mail:**

Students will have access to use the schools computers, primarily mac's. Students preferring to work on their own computer can use the schools free wireless network.

*Access cards allowing students to use the computer rooms evenings and weekends are available (deposit 200 DKK).*

Students are granted an e-mail address at the school, to be used during their stay in Århus. The e-mail address is needed in order to make prints and to get access to school computers and the wireless network.

The dsj-email is closed one month after the course has ended.

**Photocopiers:**

Copy cards can be purchased at the information desk.

**Library:**

The library and the Danish Media Archives are at your disposal. There is a large variety of international papers and magazines. There are also computers specially set up for international wire services and databases. The Danish State library at the Århus University is open for use if you have a Danish social security number (CPR no.) But you may always order books through the DSJ library.

**Class rooms:**

The international semester programme class will probably get different classrooms for each course. The DSJ cleaning service kindly asks you to remember to leave classrooms as clean as when you entered.

**Mailbox:**

Mail, faxes etc. will be delivered in a mailbox at the information desk.

**Student housing in Århus:**

It is very hard to find housing for students in Århus. Students will be housed in student accommodation at various places within a radius of five kilometers from DSJ. The rooms are furnished but you should provide your own bedding (duvets/blankets, pillows, covers etc.). The rent varies from 1800-2000 DKK per month (plus a refundable deposit). The school can offer you a room from July 1 until December 31 or January 1 until June 30 (six months periods). Students are also free to find their own housing.

**Danish language course:**

The DSJ offers a short and basic Danish survival language course for beginners. The course is free of charge.

In order to attend longer and more intensive courses you will need a Danish personal registration number (CPR No.). (It is not possible to apply for a CPR No. before you are

actually in Århus.) The language schools are funded by the government and the course will cost you only a small fee.

The International Student Centre in Århus also offers language courses for a fee of about 500-600 DKK per course.

**The International student centre**

The school offers a free membership of the International Student Centre (ISC) in Århus. Info on ISC, see [www.iscaarhus.dk](http://www.iscaarhus.dk)

## Staff

**Tom Fangel.** [tf@djh.dk](mailto:tf@djh.dk)  
Educational background:

Course:

Head of TV Tech. Dep. DSJ  
Professional photographer  
MA, University of Aarhus  
Photography and video

**Chester Folming.** [snabela@djh.dk](mailto:snabela@djh.dk) Development executive in DSJ it-department  
Educational background:

Course:

Multimedia Designer, Århus Business  
School  
Video techniques and final project

**John Frølich.** [jf2@djh.dk](mailto:jf2@djh.dk)  
Educational background:

Course:

Journalist, Ass. professor, DSJ  
Journalist, the Danish School of Journalism.  
One year Diploma Course in foreign news  
reporting.  
European Studies at The University of Århus.  
Reporting the EU and final project

**Annette Holm.** [ah@djh.dk](mailto:ah@djh.dk)  
Educational background:  
Course:

Journalist, Ass. professor, DSJ  
Journalism, The Danish School of Journalism  
Stereotypes and final project

**Asbjørn Slot Jørgensen.** [asbo@djh.dk](mailto:asbo@djh.dk)  
Educational background:  
Course:

Journalist, Ass. professor, DSJ  
Journalism, The Danish School of Journalism  
International Newsgathering and final  
project

**Henrik Meller:** [hm@djh.dk](mailto:hm@djh.dk)  
Educational background:  
Course:

Graphic designer  
Lay out

**Inger Munk.** [imu@djh](mailto:imu@djh)  
Educational background:  
Course:

Head of International programmes, DSJ  
MSc.Geography, University of Aarhus.  
Introduction and course coordinator

**Anna Nejrup,** [anna@djh.dk](mailto:anna@djh.dk)

Educational background: MA in French and English from the Aarhus Business School  
Course: Student coordinator for international students at the Danish School of  
Journalism since 1993.

**Susse Sommer, [ss@djh.dk](mailto:ss@djh.dk)**

Educational background:

Course:

Graphic designer

Lay out

**Kristian Strøbech. [ks@djh.dk](mailto:ks@djh.dk)**

Educational background:

Course:

Journalist, Ass. professor, DSJ

Journalism, The Danish School of Journalism

Coordination risk reporting.

Resource person on environmental issues

**Jesper Strudsholm, [jesper@iafrica.com](mailto:jesper@iafrica.com)**

Educational background:

Course:

Correspondent in South Africa for the

Danish Daily paper: Politiken.

Journalism, The Danish School of Journalism

Risk Reporting

**Various guest lecturers**