

Cameron Blackshaw – @blackshaw_film – blackshaw_cameron@yahoo.com – 07930212149

Personal Profile

I am a confident and enthusiastic university graduate currently undertaking my NCTJ training with proven experience writing content for established publications. Using this expertise that I honed at university and through hands-on experience, I have demonstrated that I have the ability to create clear, concise and creative copy for a wide array of platforms, including news outlets, websites and social media.

Skills

- Advanced understanding of the English language and creative and analytical writing expertise
- A keen grasp of editorial skills and understanding of SEO
- Impeccable research, interview and presentation skills
- Superb teamworking and communication skills with internal colleagues and external clients
- Experience working for online writing platforms and a print newspaper
- Excellent time management and organisational skills
- Substantial knowledge on current affairs and in particular, sports, arts and culture
- Proficient use of Microsoft Office, WordPress (CMS) and social media platforms
- Tried and tested admin skills I have used throughout all of my previous roles

Current Freelance Roles

Reporter for South West Londoner April 2021 – present

- As part of my NCTJ training at News Associates, I craft stories on a variety of local news topics for the online news publication South West Londoner
- This role has given me an insight into how local news publications operate and has greatly improved my interview and research skills
- It has improved my understanding of SEO and has had me writing concise copy to tight deadlines

The Independent

Film Review Editor September 2021 – present, **Writer** December 2020 – present

- Primarily, my editorial role consists of editing and formatting submitted work so that they can be published on our website. I also provide feedback to writers so that they can improve their work
- I post on The Independent's social media accounts, promoting film reviews and articles
- I communicate with PR representatives from various film companies to organise press screeners
- I also write several articles for The Independent, ranging from music news to film reviews

Previous Experience

Editorial Assistant at Whitelines Magazine March – September 2021

- My primary duties were producing exciting copy for the world's largest online snowboarding website
- The copy I wrote ranged from quick PR pieces that were rapidly produced on a daily basis, to longer form articles that I had pitched to my editor and researched thoroughly
- I greatly improved my understanding and use of WordPress as well as how SEO operates
- I was integral in the creation of the Whitelines 21/22 Buyers' Guide, which involved me writing a variety of different product reviews, organising the photoshoot and even modelling different products
- I communicated with a number of snowboard company representatives to organise deliveries of products for the Buyers' Guide and this greatly improved my admin and communication skills

Film Critic at the Newbury Weekly News August 2019 – April 2021

- As the Film Critic, I wrote the weekly film review that got published in the arts section of the paper
- The role allowed me to develop my analytical writing skills to a high level as well as learn how to tailor my writing to a wide public audience
- I consistently utilised my well-honed organisational and timekeeping skills to make sure the copy was delivered on time
- I managed my own projects, working independently and choosing what content I wanted to create

Work Experience

Work Experience at the Newbury Weekly News June 2019

- I learned how newspapers are put together and was part of the reporting team. This required me to have superb teamworking and communication skills to operate within such a fast-paced working environment
- I utilised my excellent research and writing skills to write several articles that made it into the paper
- I worked independently, discovering my own stories to further research and discuss with colleagues

Reporter at Mxdwn UK February – April 2019

- I contributed 5x 600-word articles a week to the UK music website, maintaining a high level of organisation and focus throughout the week to consistently deliver excellent copy on time
- Communicating through email and social media, I worked as part of a reporting team, constantly discussing current affairs in the UK music industry and deciding which stories to cover
- This role allowed me to further develop my content creation skills through contributing to an active online news platform

Education

NCTJ Diploma in Multimedia Journalism February – December 2021

- I have a great understanding of media law, journalism for a digital audience and public affairs
- I am currently at 60wpm shorthand and am hoping to reach 100wpm by the time I finish
- I achieved the highest mark in my class in the Essential Journalism exam (A – 73%)

University of Southampton 2017-2020

BA (hons) Film – Second Class Honours (Upper Division)

Christ's Hospital School 2017-2020

A-Level – A, A, B (English, History of Art, Latin)

IGCSE – A*, A*, A*, A, A, A, A (Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, English Language, English Literature, Spanish)

GCSE – A*, A (History, Latin)

Hobbies & Interests

- Film fanatic – try to get to the cinema every week and always watching old films too
- Music lover – I live for gigs and festivals!
- Sports fan – particularly of football, golf and cricket
- Foodie – love to cook and bake
- Keen golfer

*This CV may be kept on file and distributed for employment purposes.