



## Student journalists as reflective practitioners

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# Context: Creative Professionals Project

- ▶ Journalism within a Creative Arts Faculty
- ▶ Creative Curriculum Model
- ▶ Creative spaces for professional identities
- ▶ Professional opportunities for the creative arts



# Key questions about assessment

- ▶ How do we link learning tasks with assessment tasks?
- ▶ How do we link learning and assessment tasks across subjects?
- ▶ How do we link learning and assessment tasks not just with professional standards but with a sense of professional identity?



# Philosophy of Journalism Statement

Enables students to:

- ▶ map their progress over the course of a degree program;
- ▶ develop their identity as reflective practitioners;
- ▶ make connections between different subjects particularly theory/practice links;
- ▶ develop creative ways of communicating their values and experiences as journalists
- ▶ develop professional goals and aspirations.

# Philosophy of Journalism Initial Round

- ▶ Reflections showed an ability to come to terms with tempered ambitions through reflecting on both skills set and evolving understanding of professional field.
- ▶ Most able to articulate career goals congruent with their ability.
- ▶ Most values statements were still abstract because of lack of real grounded personal experience. Those who were able to express the most clearly articulated values were also those who rooted their reflections in a very clear personal story

approach	indicates change	indicates little change
Formal	3	4
Innovative	2	
Personal Story	7	
Personal Essay	19	1

# Phased reflection as an integrative assessment tool in course design

Course Phase	Types of learning activities	Approach to learning	Type of reflection	Key questions	Professional orientation
1	Guided practice	Simulated authentic tasks	Situating the self as learning self	How did I get here?	Skills
2	Newsroom	Real-time authentic tasks	Situating the self through critical incidents	What did I just learn?	Practices
3	Integrated suite of subjects: Investigations Features Convergent Media	Integrated authentic tasks	Situating the self in a community of practice	What's this all about?	Capabilities
4	Freelance Projects	Research based experiments	Situating the self: self and world	Where to now?	Identity