



Introducing your Programme Leader MICK KELLY



Career history and interests

Mick is an award-winning television producer and broadcast specialist whose high-profile credits include 'The Real Brian Clough' for Channel 4, voted Broadcast Magazine's Sports Programme of the Year in 2001, and 'Tyson: Baddest Man on the Planet' which was screened on Channel Five the night Mike Tyson fought Lennox Lewis in 2002 in a bid to become heavyweight boxing champion of the world. Other sport programming includes an observational film about the England rugby team for ITV1 that followed Brian Ashton's England rugby team during the nine months leading up to the Rugby World Cup 2007, as well as a highly-acclaimed rugby skills series for BBC1 presented by Jonny Wilkinson. This was CBBC's nomination for Digital Programme of the Year.

After completing the NCTJ (National Council for the Training of Journalists) diploma, Mick started in journalism as a reporter on local newspapers in west and east London, before breaking into television when he joined LWT as a researcher. He then enjoyed a career in television that took him around the world: this ranged from interviewing football hooligans in Moscow, to being immersed in Tokyo's unique football culture for a World Cup preview series. Beyond football and sport in general, Mick also crossed the USA to interview the greatest names in the history of soul music, and to produce an award-winning documentary about the most popular movies in British box-office history. Both of these productions were for Channel Four. Finally, realising a long-held ambition, Mick wrote a book about his beloved Queens Park Rangers FC in 2009.

Mick started to teach factual programming when he joined Harlow College to oversee the launch of new broadcasting curriculums on courses administered by the NCTJ and Anglia Ruskin University. He joined UCFB Wembley in 2015, to shape and oversee the launch of the newly-formed Sports Business and Sports Broadcasting degree, which was developed using an active and experiential learning strategy that saw an official partnership being formed with QPR in 2017. UCFB broadcasting students are assigned to film matches at all levels for the club: First Team, U23s, U18s and QPR Women. He also oversees other partnerships where students work with sport broadcasters and organisations.

What you can expect in your first few weeks

You will start Year 1 by understanding the academic demands of an undergraduate student and, within one module in Semester 1, you will get introduced to principles of sports broadcasting.

Course expectations

You are expected to embrace the opportunities that will emerge on the degree to work with external bodies within the industry, ranging from football clubs to broadcasting companies. These opportunities to develop employable skills are a feature of the degree.

What you can be doing to prepare

You should think about the sports programmes on television, radio or online that you like the most, and ask yourself why. What is it about the production that most appeals to you as a member of the audience? This is a good place to start when embarking on a career in sports broadcasting.

Reading list

Alexander R, Stewart, P (2021) Broadcast Journalism – Techniques of Radio and Television News. London: Focal Press

Hudson, G, Rowlands, S (2012) The Broadcast Journalism Handbook. London: Taylor & Francis.

Owens, J (2019) Television Production. Abingdon: Focal Press