

JOURNALISM

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

NEWS CORRESPONDENT

News correspondents inform the public about news and events happening internationally, nationally, and locally. They report news for various other media outlets, including newspapers and magazines. News correspondents can convey stories through broadcasts, as well as print media and web content, so knowledge of a wide spectrum of media is essential. It is important for those in this field to be up to date with current news and be able to clearly provide information to the public about it. Knowledge about domestic politics and national and international issues is crucial, as a news correspondent will be expected to be educated in what they are discussing. They will also have to produce interviews and live segments, so it is necessary to be a proactive thinker in this line of work.

SKILLS

- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work under pressure and adhere to strict deadlines
- Creativity and organization
- Strong interpersonal skills

SALARY

The average salary of a news correspondent is **\$37,720** per year.

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FILM CRITIC

A film critic works for varying mediums to review films. Typically a film critic reviews a few movies a week, reports on entertainment news, and attends film festivals and premieres. Each article can include information about the story line, how the acting was, and advice for future movie goers. These articles will each be written with the unique voice of the writing showing through while giving their opinion on the piece.

SKILLS

- Ability to communicate to different audience
- Connect personal experience to reviews
- Consistent writing style
- Critical thinking
- Time management
- Proofreading
- Problem solving
- Memory
- Attention to detail
- Ability to keep an open mind

SALARY

A film critic makes an average salary of **\$67,870**.

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BROADCAST JOURNALIST

Broadcast journalists report on news and current events via television or radio. These faces or voices of hosts have traditionally masked a huge support network of writers and copy editors who work behind the scenes. A writer working in broadcast journalism is beholden to most of the same standards as in print journalism. Doing thorough research and conforming to standards of journalistic integrity are as important as they are in print. It is necessary for those in the field to understand their audiences and to be able to adjust their writing style accordingly.

SKILLS

- Being able to work in a team context to meet strict deadlines
- Adherence to standard of journalistic ethics
- Writing brief and understandable copy for mass consumption
- Ability to understand the needs of the audience
- Public speaking skills if hosting

SALARY

Salary can range from **\$22,000-\$70,000** with the median hovering around \$33,000.

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FOOD CRITIC

Food Critics travel around to different restaurants, dives, and bars sampling their food to write reviews for the establishment. A good review from a well-accredited food critic can make a restaurant's sales skyrocket, while a poor review can make their sales plummet. While dining, food critics evaluate the quality of the food, ambiance surrounding the venue, taste of the food, and overall dining experience. Upon the collection of this information, food critics compose a review that will be featured in newspapers, magazines, and advertisements. Despite the obvious appeal of sampling new and delicious foods for free, a food critic must understand the seriousness of their job, since the type of review they write can determine a restaurant's future.

SKILLS

- Writing skills
- Attention to detail
- Readiness and desire to travel
- Analytical skills
- Creativity
- Computer dexterity
- Vast vocabulary
- Restaurant experience

SALARY

Salaries differ by region; however, the median salary of a food critic is **\$88,000**.

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OBITUARY WRITER

An obituary writer is responsible for recording the events of an individual's life in the context of their death. Sometimes obituaries are written preemptively in the face of oncoming death, sometimes post-partum. Obituary writers must be informed, respectful, and able to tailor their work to the individual or their relatives.

SKILLS

- Investigative reporting
- Writing
- Interpersonal skills
- Communicational skills
- Speed and efficiency

SALARY

The salary for these writers averages around **\$32,000** a year.

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NEWS PRODUCER

News producers are not limited to work in one single field. They typically may work in online news, print, television, or radio.

News Producers typically oversee the work that is done to produce proper news content so that it is properly presented to the public. News Producers are typically seen as the “leaders” of a news production team. So in addition to having managerial duties, News Producers are also expected to select and edit footage for news segments, write articles, write news prompts, and review sound bytes (among other things) before they are sent to be viewed by the public. It is expected for a News Producer to work under high-pressure situations and with different types of people.

SKILLS

- Managerial skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Computer skills
- Writing skills
- Editing skills
- Fast-thinking skills

SALARY

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, a News Producer is expected to make an average of **\$72,020** a year. Within the next 10 years, this occupation is expected to grow approximately 9%.