

## Learner Case Study

### Culture, Media, Sports and the Arts; Leisure, Hospitality and Tourism

---

#### Katy – Broadcast Journalist

During the final year of her degree in English and Drama, Katy realised she needed practical skills to give her career options. An early experience of TV influenced her choice of a postgraduate degree in broadcast journalism.

In retrospect, Katy thinks, "It doesn't matter what your first degree is in as long as you have an active interest in news, politics and current affairs." Employers are looking for a breadth of knowledge and postgraduate study is strongly recommended.

Katy's advice to those interested in broadcast journalism is to keep up to date with legal changes in broadcasting, which she feels puts you at an advantage. She also suggests gaining practical experience such as working on student newspapers or local radio and developing a critical awareness of the media.

Katy was initially offered a staff job with local radio BBC Oxford after a period of work experience, "It was invaluable preparation because I was able to do everything from research and investigating stories to reporting them". She then went on to work for the BBC World Service and is now working as a radio journalist for BBC Radio 4.

Katy stresses the importance of being able to keep to timetables, plan schedules, research well and in general be a good self-administrator. Networking is also a key feature of this job, as is the ability to listen.

Although Katy feels confident now, she has observed that the further you travel in this career the more you have to do to achieve your goals. She says her current job is all about ideas, "I'm an ideas machine, and then I have to make those ideas happen. It's incredibly creative, and there is always new media, which enables me to communicate stories in fresh ways."

Source – Prospects ([www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk))

