

Handbook of Journalism Studies

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Karin Wahl-Jorgensen & Thomas Hanitzsch, *Handbook of Journalism Studies*. Routledge, 2019

After more than a decade, the *Handbook of Journalism Studies*, edited by Karin-Wahl-Jorgensen and Thomas Hanitzsch, is back in its second edition. Like the first edition, this handbook synthesises a wide-range of topics surrounding journalism. The handbook is a compilation of entries by scholars in journalism and communication studies based in various countries such as Australia, Hong Kong, South Africa, United Kingdom, and United States.

This latest edition provides not merely updated topics related to the journalism industry but insights to the complex identity of journalism in the 21st century. At 573 pages, this handbook can be considered a comprehensive resource for not just those majoring in journalism but also for the rest of the media students as well as academics.

The book is organised into six parts: Introducing journalism studies, news production, news content, journalism and society, journalism and culture, and journalism studies in a global context.

The nine chapters in “Part II: News Production,” which constitute the largest part of the Handbook, cover topics such as computational journalism, and journalism, social media, and online publics. For example, Chapter 12 discusses “computational journalism.” The author of this chapter, Neil Thurman, who is a Professor of Communication at LMU Munich, indicated that computational journalism is a relatively new term he describes as, “the advanced application of computing, algorithms, and automation to the gathering, evaluation, composition, presentation, and distribution of news.”

With an increasing need to acknowledge diversity, this Handbook also has a dedicated section on “Journalism and Culture” previously not available. The authors of this section cover a wide range of top-

ics, such as women in journalism, gender gap, sexual harassment, and news reporting of ethnic minority groups, as well as Islam. Elizabeth Poole, an expert in the media’s representation of Muslims in the United Kingdom, wrote a chapter on ‘covering diversity’ that briefly highlights the portrayal of Muslims and Islam in the Western media, noting that Muslims and Islam have consistently been associated with “terrorism, extremism, conflict and violence, and cultural different.”

One minor shortcoming of this Handbook is that if you own the previous handbook, only 25 out of the 34 chapters are entirely new. Also, most of the major topics are explained in very general terms. This handbook only scratches the surface of the world of journalism. However, these are minor criticisms.

Overall, the *Handbook of Journalism Studies* (second ed.) could be a great addition to university teaching and learning. The Handbook does reflect the fact that there have been a number of new developments in the journalism industry over the last decade. Also, this Handbook could be useful for others who would like to gain insights into the world of journalism.

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