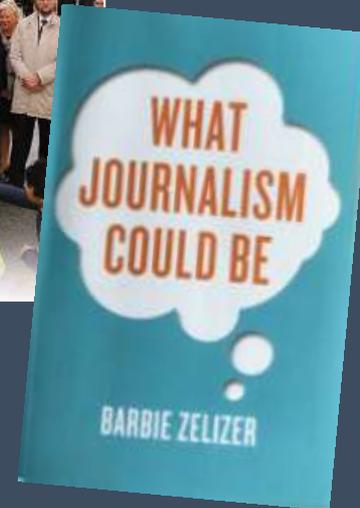# Strangers in strange lands

Photo: BU

**Becoming a journalist revisited**

**Andrew Bissell, Bournemouth University**

Can 'becoming' inform education?

# Hans-Georg Gadamer



*Truth and Method (1960)*
*Philosophical Hermeneutics (1976)*

# Becoming a journalist amid changing tradition

## Becoming dispositions and attitudes

*The desire to be impartial, objective and detached*

*The desire to develop a self brand and curate identity while marketing and selling stories*

**The story of 'me' and the story of 'you'**


Photo: BU

## Becoming storytellers

*A desire to campaign and investigate*

**Public service motivation v self interest**

## Becoming skills

*The desire to acquire traditional NCTJ skills while being proficient in multimedia, data handling, social media and analytics*

**"I've noticed a shift with stories … will enough people click on it? If not, is it really worthwhile? It's all about efficiency"**

## Hierarchical becoming

*Valued roles include those requiring writing, "hunting for stories" and being "on the frontline"*

**"To me a typical journalist is someone getting answers out in the field. But only a small number do this. Too many are happy being passive. It's a resigned case of 'This is just how it is, it's online, I'll just sit here and react to what comes in'"**

# A meeting of strangers: Gadamer's fusion of horizons



Staff self-reflection

**Becoming spaces**

Student self-reflection