



Dr Vivienne Francis

University of the Arts London
29/06 - 12.15pm-1.15pm

Why journalism education requires a social justice approach?

Vivienne Francis is the founder and director of the award-winning Refugee Journalism Project, which she established in 2016 to support forcibly displaced and exiled media workers to rebuild their careers. It works towards social change through creating opportunities that support the agency of a group whose professional voices and perspectives struggle to get recognition in the UK's mainstream media.

This work has led to collaborations with global organisations including the UN Refugee Agency and the Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma based at Columbia University. Participants have gone on to work at BBC World Service, Thomson Reuters, The Guardian and Bloomberg.

This keynote will outline how these activities are helping to conceptualise the term social justice journalism as an ethical response to the challenges facing the industry and society in relation to representation, equality, and cross-cultural values. Using case studies, it will also consider the role of the academy in delivering more ethically-driven, action orientated journalism graduates.

Leandro Demori

Brazilian Journalist
29/06 - 3.30pm-4.30pm

Fighting against authoritarianism: the journalistic battle to unmasking Bolsonarism and to defend the democracy in Brazil

Journalist Leandro Demori is an unsung hero of Brazilian recent history and one of those responsible for the maintenance of the fragile young democracy in the country. He led an investigative journalism series that culminated with the actual president Luis Inácio Lula da Silva being freed from jail and able to run against the far-right Jair Bolsonaro. Demori became a prominent figure and a target of Bolsonarism after leading the Vaza-Jato investigations, which exposed a corrupt scheme within Brazil's judiciary. Demori's revelations shook the foundations of the regime, particularly by exposing the involvement of key figures in corruption, illegal connections with the USA, and compromising the rule of law. As a result, he faced increasing threats, ultimately leading him to flee the country in an emergency decision just days before the presidential elections last year. The impact of Demori's work extended beyond Brazil, gaining international attention, and even prompting the United Nations to request permanent security for him under Bolsonaro's rule. His biography highlights a significant role in exposing corruption and defending freedom of the press, making him a key figure in the fight against political corruption and authoritarianism in Brazil.



Meet our keynote speakers



Rich Conniss

University of Derby
30/06 - 10.30-11.30am

Beyond Chat GPT: artificial intelligence in education

Rich Conniss is a Senior Lecturer in Computing and Mathematics at the College of Science and Engineering of the University of Derby. With a background in Mathematics, Richard's expertise lies in the field of operations/operational research, metaheuristic optimisation, and functional programming. He is a former RAF Air Traffic Controller and has expertise in computational modelling for decision processes, cellular automata and agents in simulations.

In this keynote talk, Rich Conniss will attempt to demystify recent developments in AI to allow academics from outside the computing field to understand what is behind machines utilising algorithms and data to simulate human intelligence, learn from experiences, and make decisions or perform tasks autonomously. He also talks about the risks and opportunities of AI in the education field, including data privacy concerns, algorithmic biases, overreliance on AI systems and the limits of human oversight on autonomous machines.

