



English for Journalists Blended Media Course

English for Journalists is a 10-week blended media (an online course along with some face-to-face meetings) course sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Regional English Language Office (RELO) for Central and Southeastern Europe (based at U.S. Embassy Budapest). With assistance and resources from Voice of America (VOA) and an English Language Specialist from the University of California Berkeley, the course has been developed by English teaching and journalism professionals from 10 countries.

Course goal: By the end of this course, participants can expect to have a greater knowledge of critical journalistic activities, and the English language skills and abilities required to perform them.

Course Content: Instructional modules will cover topics including ethics, inclusive journalism, global versus local news, citizen journalism, freedom of speech and the press, humor and satire, sports, science and technology, and future trends in media.

Course Dates: April 27-July 5, 2015

Course Location: Online content can be accessed anywhere; face-to-face session locations will be selected by Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Riga, Latvia.

Candidates:

- ✓ Are currently employed, early- to mid- career, practicing journalists OR advanced-level students of journalism at colleges/universities
- ✓ Are citizens and residents of Latvia
- ✓ Have an intermediate (B1/ preferably B2 on the CEFR) level of English language proficiency (this is NOT a course for beginners)
- ✓ Are willing to commit to spending 4 hours per week over a 10-week period on the course
- ✓ Are willing to participate both online and in at least 2 weekly (?) face-to-face sessions facilitated by their host country course developer/instructor
- ✓ Are willing to provide evaluation feedback at the end of each module/week

Nominees are asked to send their contact information and a brief CV to Ingrida Bodniece at Bodniecei@state.gov by **March 13, 2015**. Selected candidates will be asked to complete an application package including a self-assessment of their English language proficiency, a CV, a statement of motivation, and a brief video self-introduction.

VOA Fellowship/Internship: One participant from Latvia participating in this will be offered a fully-funded, two-week fellowship (for practicing journalists) or internship (for students of journalism) at Voice of America in Washington, DC in Fall/Winter 2015.