CURRICULUM VITAE (TRAINING)

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OBJECTIVE: To obtain sessional contract work and speaking engagements through organisations, to provide enhanced training to a wide range of audiences with my focus on strategies to achieve the goals & outcomes for individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. I possess excellent people skills enabling me to deal with people from a broad range of backgrounds, including experience in the school sector that enables me to facilitate training for all ages.

PROFFESIONAL EXPERIENCES:

15 April - 5 June 2025

'The Assembly'

Completed the *Journalism Foundations* course at Macquarie University and participated in ABC TV's *The Assembly*, a program where autistic journalism students conduct on-camera interviews with Australian celebrities including actor Julia Morris, Actor Richard Roxburgh, Cricketer Steve Waugh, and journalist Ray Martin. The show demonstrates how media benefits from diverse perspectives, with autistic journalists bringing unique insights, curiosity, and approaches to journalism that broaden public conversations. The course combined formal journalism training with real-world, on-camera experience.

The course and filming included

- 1. Formal Education: *Journalism Foundations* course at Macquarie University [Graduated: 12 June 2024 or 30 May 2025]. The course included formal training in journalism principles, journalistic ethics, news values, listening, vox pops, interviewing, and presenting for radio and television.
- 2. Professional mentoring from Leigh Sales: Leigh Sales is widely regarded as one of Australia's leading journalists. Leigh provided personalised professional coaching to help refine interview questions, develop on-camera confidence, and prepare for high-profile celebrity interviews.
- 3. On-camera interviews: Conducted 4 interviews with Australian celebrities in front of an audience, working collaboratively in a group setting. Gained experience in preparing questions, adapting to unexpected responses, managing under pressure, and maintaining professionalism while performing on TV.
- 4. Workplace insight: Participated in work experience, field trips, and location visits, and met with media professionals at the ABC as well as training providers to gain insight into the journalism and media employment landscape.

What I have learned:

- ✓ Media theory: Understanding journalism principles, ethics, and news values, and how they guide reporting.
- ✓ Research skills: Conducting background research, verifying facts, and preparing questions for interviews.
- ✓ **Interview question development:** Crafting unique, clear and engaging questions.
- ✓ **TV interview skills:** Practicing vox pops, formal group interviews, and on-camera presentation.
- ✓ Practical media knowledge: Gaining hands-on experience with sound, camera, and production processes.
- ✓ **Teamwork and collaboration:** Working effectively in small and large groups under pressure.

What I have demonstrated:

- ✓ **Professionalism:** Consistently turned up prepared, followed instructions, and represented the team well on camera.
- ✓ **Reliability:** Completed all tasks and interviews on time, showing commitment and responsibility.
- ✓ **Integrity:** Maintained ethical standards in research, questioning, and interactions with interviewees.
- ✓ Flexibility: Adapted to unexpected changes, including on-camera challenges and scheduling adjustments.
- ✓ **Teamwork:** Collaborated effectively with fellow students, mentors, and production staff to achieve shared goals.
- ✓ **Communication skills:** Listened actively, articulated questions clearly, and engaged confidently with high-profile interviewees.
- ✓ **Problem-solving:** Managed unexpected situations during interviews and adapted strategies to get the best outcomes.
- ✓ **Confidence under pressure:** Maintained composure while performing on camera in front of an audience.

Work samples

You can view my contributions to *The Assembly* here: https://iview.abc.net.au/show/assembly/series/2. Some of my key moments include being in the control room, the studio as well as interviewing the guests on the show itself.

In addition to on-camera work, I also supported the promotion of the show by [insert specific tasks, e.g., creating social media posts, helping with trailers, participating in press or outreach events].

Employer: KTalk

Position: CEO/Founder/Director

Duration: (2007 - 2014) (2023 - Current)

- Facilitated training to primary and secondary schools, higher education providers, health care professionals and a range of community sector companies, including employment services.
- Facilitated training and information sessions for parent groups and general community awareness including strategy sessions and behaviour management models.
- Provided one-to-one support and advice to families, individuals, and organisations, to assist and support their role supporting individuals with ASD.
- Authored a number of resource materials to support the ongoing development of support and encouragement to organisations to successfully employ individuals with ASD.
- Have phenomenally ran highly successful self-help courses (developed by me for KTalk) within the local community through Neighborhood Houses/Community Centres throughout Victoria.

https://ktalk.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/PAST-EVENTS-KTALK.pdf https://ktalk.au/events/list/?eventDisplay=past

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Reaching out to and improving the lives of many families of individuals living with ASD, teaching them the specific life skills they needed to lead independent lives for themselves.
- In response to concerns raised by families of their child/s behavior providing suggestions of how they could implement practical solutions to resolve their concerns.
- Becoming & now being a recognized renowned International Keynote & Plenary speaker at major conferences globally.

Employer: Amaze

Position: Technical Expert

Duration: June 2013 – May 2014 - Contract

AMAZE is the peak body in Victoria providing advice and guidance regarding autism spectrum disorder and was also an approved JASANZ auditor for ISO 9001 and the Department of Human Services Standards. My role was as a technical expert providing specific advice regarding autism spectrum disorders.

The role included:

- Attending schools within Melbourne CBD & Regional Victoria observing teachers and teaching support staff working with students with ASD.
- Providing advice, guidance, and feedback on their interaction with students and how they may be able to better support students in the classroom.
- Providing strategies for teachers and teacher aids to address behavior impacting on whole of class learning

and to support enhanced learning outcomes for students with ASD.

• Administration duties as directed.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- The advice, guidance and strategies provided to teachers and support staff had a positive outcome within the schools and assisted these schools to become ASD compliant. In many instances, the strategies and advice were then adopted, across the school community and practices implemented within school policy frameworks.
- Worked with the different students to engage in their school activities with them & being part of their classroom learning.

Please contact me should you require a referee for this document.