

**John Cuoco**  
**WHDH-TV sports (Boston)**

When people enter college there is a sense of new beginning that fills the air of each year. I have always felt that the world was at my fingertips and I could really do what I wanted once I found the niche that suited me best in college. After completing this internship with NBC's Channel 7 in Boston I am now one-hundred percent sure of what I want to do with my post-college life; I want to be a news reporter/anchor.

Over the course of the internship I completed all tasks that were asked of me by Channel 7 and of URI. I found every stat that was asked of me, I put away hundreds of highlight tapes, I logged numerous sporting events such as the Red Sox, Yankees, and many others. I also made rundowns, helped make highlights and write scripts. Of course at the beginning I wasn't very good, but with practice I became a much improved news producer.

As far as the assignments from URI, I always did my best to complete and send them in on time. I would point to my resume that I did as my best work. With that resume, along with a stellar resume tape, I think would be a great candidate for any small starter news market.

Going into my internship I wish I had known more of the news lingo. Like learning a foreign language, I had to pick up on small words when people would throw them around the office. Of course I would ask what they meant, but it took some time to remember what they were. For example, ESS is an electronic still store which is a graphic behind the anchor; it's also known as a Duet Z. Things like this I had to pick up on and wish I had some more knowledge about going in because knowing these terms would have made working the first couple weeks a little easier.

I felt that this internship connected very well with the classes I had taken thus far at URI. Obviously the TV classes synced very well because of the connection. The TV writing, and producing aspect really helped me with having some idea what to do around the office. Classes dealing with the history of broadcasting and ethics also gelled. These classes gelled because in news there is always a sense of strong history with how people approach their jobs. Some people like to be old fashioned and act like the class-act reporters of the past, while others like to be different and separate themselves. With ethics and news there is always a line to cross in how to

approach a story, as well as how to write it. Being in the news room showed me how much thought went into stories and whether they were worth doing or if they would get the station in trouble. I found that the writing classes more focused on print may have hurt me in this internship because writing for TV and writing for print are so different. I'm still glad I took the print writing classes because they helped me improve my overall writing.

The advice I have for students going into a placement like mine would be to always ask questions. If you don't understand something or want to understand something further, always ask because no one will know to just tell you, a student must speak up. Once you open your mouth and ask, anyone in the station will answer your question or at least find someone who can.

On my last day at Channel 7, I asked all the questions I could about how to start my career in news and I am so glad I did because now I have an outline on how successful TV journalists made their careers and I just need to work hard and follow the blueprint.