

Best books for hacks – vote for the 8 tomes every journalist should read

 blogs.lse.ac.uk/polis/2009/07/24/best-books-for-hacks-vote-for-the-8-tomes-every-journalist-should-read/

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I have a pathological aversion to best-of lists, except, of course, when I am on one. An American University has compiled a [long list](#) of the finest works on journalism that they suggest are required reading for budding and practising hacks. You can vote for your eight favourites [here](#).

Orwellian

Orwellian

Naturally, I am delighted that my own [SuperMedia](#) has made the cut, in the section described as 'Journalism Critique' alongside an all-time favourite of mine, George Orwell, and a contemporary influence, Jay Rosen.



I am not sure I deserve to be in such exalted company, but that shouldn't stop you voting

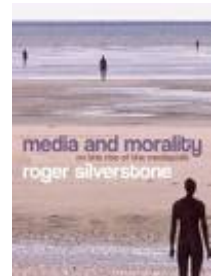




for [SuperMedia](#)

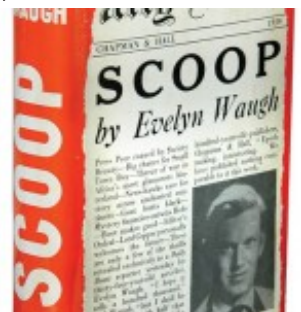
On a more serious note, the survey sensibly allows you to suggest other works not on the list. This is good because it is a bit American, male and perhaps, overly serious.

So in keeping with the intellectual approach, I would offer a book that has underpinned my work here at Polis, [Roger Silverstone's Media and Morality](#).



For an understanding of the craft of writing, I would submit the immortal [Keith Waterhouse Mirror Style Guide](#).

But perhaps you can learn more about journalism through satire – and because it is supposed to be fun, after all – I would offer the (inevitable) Evelyn Waugh *Scoop* and the less predictable, but equally hilarious and truthful, [Towards The End of the Morning](#) by Michael Frayn.



Make your choices [here](#)

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