

Journalism

The Major in Journalism explores the art of storytelling in the digital age. The program offers a variety of courses that allow students to develop storytelling skills using multi-media tools, including video, photography, sound, and social media platforms. The program promotes strong writing skills, the exploration of media ethics and the influence of new media in society. The program is designed for students with an interest in professional journalism and digital content production.

Journalism Major

Students who major in Journalism are required to complete 36 credit hours of Journalism courses, 18 credit hours of which must be at the 3000 or 4000 levels. Students majoring in Journalism will choose courses with the help of faculty advisors based on their interest and aspirations.

JOUR-1113. Fundamentals of Effective Writing

Vigorous and clear writing is the foundation for all forms of digital journalism and new media production. This writing intensive course develops fundamental skills for effective writing and storytelling. This is a required course for all students pursuing a major in Journalism.

JOUR-1023. The Message: Great Stories of Journalism

This course will introduce students to a range of works of print and broadcast Journalism to allow them to understand the scope, purpose, and influence of stories in the journalistic tradition. Students will respond to these works in writing and post their responses in an online discussion forum.

JOUR-2033. Local Reporting, Global Media

This course explores the art of reporting and storytelling, allowing students to create and digitally publish local stories that become part of a global media network.

JOUR-2113. The Toolbox 1: New Media

This course introduces students to multi-media storytelling, including recording and editing sound and video.

JOUR-2123. The Toolbox 2: Mobile Media

This course will explore the use of photography and video in new media, and how stories are told through the lens. Prerequisite: JOUR 2123 or permission of the professor.

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JOUR-3033. The Power of Narrative

This course explores the use of narrative in various media, and how storytelling remains the primary form of communication in the multi-media world.

JOUR-3143. Documentary

This course introduces students to the art of documentary in various media. The course will explore the history of documentary and the resurgence of the art form in the digital age. Students will produce a short documentary as part of the course work. Prerequisite: JOUR 2123 or permission of professor

JOUR-3153. Digital Journalism

This course explores developments in digital journalism that have fundamentally changed the nature of publishing and journalism, and the role of journalism in the new media landscape. Prerequisite: JOUR 2123 or permission of professor

JOUR-3163. New Media and Social Change (COPP)

This course explores how the new media and social media are contributing to political and social change around the world.

JOUR-3333. Special Topics in Journalism and Media

The content of this course changes from year to year to reflect the special strengths of faculty and particular needs of students.

JOUR-3173. Interviewing and the Art of Inquiry

This course explores the art of the interview and the art of inquiry, allowing students to understand how to effectively ask and answer questions.

JOUR-3703: Commentary Journalism and Public Opinion

Students in this course will explore theoretical issues in journalistic commentary and learn fundamental skills related to the writing or production of print and spoken word editorials. In the process, the course will focus on examples of journalistic commentaries of the past century that have shaped and directed public opinion, the power that drives political, social, and cultural change. Classes will include lectures, group projects, and one-on-one skills development with the professor. Prerequisites: JOUR 1113, or COPP 2013, or by permission of instructor.

JOUR-3803: Business Journalism: Following the Money

This course examines the fundamentals of business and economic reporting to demystify economics — macro and micro; financial markets, and international trade. It provides basic reporting expertise, including how to conduct interviews to reading balance sheets, annual reports, and financial statements. Other topics may include covering specific beats such as labor, workplace issues, small business, banking, taxation, real estate, and personal finance.

JOUR-4106. Senior Seminar in Journalism

Students will produce community-based digital journalism projects supervised by faculty and explore the ethics of producing journalism in the public interest.

JOUR-4116. Journalism in the Field

Students will pursue experiential learning opportunities in journalism. These opportunities might include work in the student press, a professional newsroom, or the creation of a new digital publication.