BJ in Journalism

Degree Program Description

Journalism is the study and practice of analyzing, gathering, creating and presenting news and information through different media.

The curriculum includes focused study and hands-on experience within the career paths of broadcasting, cross-platform editing and producing, photojournalism and documentary journalism, reporting and writing, and social and audience strategy.

Students customize their degree through elective courses that allow them to gain depth and breadth in a wide array of subject areas and specializations.

Upon graduation, students pursue careers in a wide range of journalism and communication professions including: account management, art direction, audience engagement, audience development, audience research, business journalism, data analysis and visualization, digital content editing, digital strategy, documentary editing and producing, international journalism, investigative reporting, media planning, media production, magazine editing, mobile production, multimedia editing, news editing, photo editing, photography, podcasting, public relations, project management, product management, science communication, SEO strategy, social media producing, sports reporting, sports and entertainment promotion, strategic communication, television news reporting or production, television sports reporting or production, radio reporting and production, videography, website editing and writing.

Major Program Requirements

The Bachelor of Journalism degree requires 120 credits.

To obtain the Bachelor of Journalism degree, a student must complete the following:

- University graduation requirements
- University General Education
- Major Core: 24 credit hours
- Major Career Path: 6 credit hours
- Major Capstone: 3 credit hours
- Major Specialty Areas: 15 credit hours
- Non-Journalism Electives: 28 credit hours

ENGLISH 1000 Exposition and Argumentation (Minimum grade of B- required) 3

Foreign Languages (from same language) 12

Behavioral Science 3

Math/Science 9

ECONOM 1000 General Economics ^ 5

HIST 1100/1200 Survey of American History to 1865 ^ 3

POL_SC 1100/2100 American Government 3

STAT 1200 Introductory Statistical Reasoning (minimum grade of C- required) 3

 Humanities 3

Journalism Core Requirements

JOURN 1100 Principles of Journalism in Democracy 3

JOURN 1200 Fundamentals of Visual Journalism and Strategic Communication 2

JOURN 1300 Fundamentals of Written Journalism and Strategic Communication 2

JOURN 1400 Applied Projects for Journalism and Strategic Communication 2

JOURN 2000 Cross-Cultural Journalism 3

JOURN 2200 Audiences and Persuasion 2

JOURN 3000 History of American Journalism 3

or JOURN 4568W History of Photojournalism - Writing Intensive 3

JOURN 4000 Communications Law 3

JOURN 4160 Social Media 1

JOURN 4180 Newsroom Content Creation 3

Career Path (minimum of two courses from one area required) 6

Broadcast

Cross-Platform Editing and Producing

Photojournalism and Documentary

Reporting and Writing

Social and Audience Strategy

Specialty Areas (may choose from several) 15


Capstone 3

Non-Journalism Electives from the areas below: 28

(Must be numbered 2000 or above)

Area 1 3

Students choose from one of these areas: Animal Science, Anthropology, Astronomy, Atmospheric Science, Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Food Science, Geology, Mathematics, Physics, Plant Science, Psychology, Rural Sociology, Sociology or Statistics.

Honor’s College students can also choose from: GN_HON 2243H, GN_HON 2310H, GN_HON 2430H, GN_HON 2244H, GN_HON 2450H, GN_HON 2461H, GN_HON 2462H, GN_HON 3210H, GN_HON 3241H, GN_HON 3242H, GN_HON 3450H.

Area 2 6

Students choose from the following areas: Agribusiness Management, Black Studies, Economics, Geography, History, Peace Studies, Political Science, and Women’s and Gender Studies.

Honor’s College students can also choose from: GN_HON 2230H, GN_HON 2245H, GN_HON 2246H, GN_HON 3230H.

Area 3 6
Students choose from the following areas: Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Arabic, Architectural Studies, all Art prefixes, Chinese, Classical Humanities, Classics, Communication**, English**, Film Studies**, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, all Music prefixes, Philosophy, Portuguese, Religious Studies, Russian, South Asia Studies, Spanish, Theater, and Visual Studies-Art History

Honor’s College students can also choose from: GN_HON 2015H, GN_HON 2111H, GN_HON 2112H, GN_HON 2113H, GN_HON 2114H, GN_HON 2120H, GN_HON 3112H, GN_HON 3113H, GN_HON 3120H

Area 4 13

Any non-journalism course**

^ See your advisor for additional choices to fulfill this requirement  
* Students can earn credit in courses from additional Career Paths. These additional credits will apply to the fifteen credit hours in the Specialty Area requirements.

** Some courses are prohibited in the Bachelor of Journalism. Students should consult with their academic advisor for questions regarding courses in these areas.

General Electives

Electives may be necessary to complete a minimum of 72 credits of non-journalism classes and 120 total credits. Any course acceptable to the School of Journalism is allowed.

Semester Plan

The following four-year plan is a sample. A student’s path to graduation may vary based on a host of factors. Working with an academic advisor is necessary to determine the best plan for each student.

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Total Credits: 120

Degree Audit

The degree audit is an automated report reflecting a student’s academic progress toward the completion of a degree. Degree Audits are not available for all programs; however, please consult with the appropriate college or school for audit information.

MU students can request a degree audit by logging in to myDegreePlanner (https://mydegreeplanner.missouri.edu). Students may also access myDegreePlanner via myZou, in the Student Center, by clicking on the Request Degree Audit link. The audit automatically pulls in the student’s MU course work, transfer courses and courses in progress.

This is available to current students, admitted students, and those who last attended less than three terms ago.

Past MU students can request a degree audit by contacting the Academic Advising Unit of the division in which they were last enrolled at MU. For contact information, go to http://advising.missouri.edu/contact/.

Prospective students can access a preliminary MU degree audit via https://www.transferology.com/index.htm. (https://www.transferology.com) Information on the college credits already earned will have to be manually entered before it can be evaluated against current degree requirements.

For additional details on degree audits, go to http://registrar.missouri.edu/degree-audits/index.php.

Major and Career Exploration

The University of Missouri has many resources to assist you in exploring majors and career possibilities. For guidance, visit the Majors and Careers (https://career.missouri.edu/majors-careers) website or view specific resources below.

- If you are considering a change of major or are exploring multiple majors, schedule an appointment with an advisor in Academic Exploration and Advising Services (AEAS) (http://aeas.missouri.edu) by calling (573)884-9700.

- If you would like to learn more about your career interests, abilities, values and talents, visit the MU Career Center (http://career.missouri.edu) in the lower level of the Student Success Center. No appointment is necessary to explore career options with one of our staff members.

- If you would like information about MU majors and degree programs, visit:
  - the Degrees, Majors (Degree Programs), Emphasis Areas, Minors and Certificates (http://catalog.missouri.edu/degreesanddegreeprograms) page in the catalog,
  - the MU Majors (https://majors.missouri.edu) website.
For additional major and career exploration resources, visit Major & Career Exploration (http://catalog.missouri.edu/majorcareerexploration) in the catalog.