

UNIVERSITY STUDIES - BA, JOURNALISM STUDIES CONCENTRATION

University Studies - Journalism in the Department of Communication represents an interdisciplinary approach to journalism education, with an emphasis on writing-intensive courses that support the critical thinking skills required of journalists in the 21st century. In addition to the concentration in journalism through the University Studies degree, students in the program are required to complete two minors, substantially broadening the interdisciplinary aspects of journalism education. Students who choose a minor in Communication, for example, may also choose to complete a certificate in one of six areas: Global Media, Social Media, Strategic Communication, Health Communication, Leadership and Conflict Management or Diversity and Social Justice.

Students with a degree in University Studies - Journalism (<https://liberalarts.tamu.edu/communication/academics/degrees/journalism/>) will be prepared for a successful life and career in several ways. The coursework emphasizes critical thinking skills—a necessary component in the changing world of journalism that relies on writing for different types of media with frequent updates and differing audiences. They are exposed to experiential learning through classes that require students to report and write on deadline and by the requirement for an internship in the field. They develop and enhance strong writing skills by taking up to four writing-intensive courses. The very nature of journalism—constantly reporting and evaluating new information while examining new topics—prepares them to be thoughtful consumers of information and encourages them to engage in learning throughout their lifetimes.

Each student completes a substantial internship in settings ranging from local publications to Aggie Athletics to state and national media outlets. These internships may be completed in traditional media, digital media, broadcast and in multimedia journalism. Students also may have the opportunity to write for the campus newspaper, The Battalion.

Students in University Studies - Journalism may work in political journalism, arts and entertainment journalism, sport journalism, magazine journalism, literary nonfiction or multimedia journalism, to name a few.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
JOUR 102	American Mass Media	3
Select one of the following:		3
MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	
MATH 142	Business Calculus	
MATH 151	Engineering Mathematics I	
MATH 152	Engineering Mathematics II	
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	

Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts)	3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)	3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring

JOUR 200	Mass Media Information ¹	3
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 203	Public Speaking	
COMM 205	Communication for Technical Professions	
COMM 243	Argumentation and Debate	
ENGL 103	Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition	
ENGL 203	Writing about Literature	
ENGL 210	Technical and Professional Writing	

Select one of the following: 3

MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	
MATH 142	Business Calculus	
MATH 151	Engineering Mathematics I	
MATH 152	Engineering Mathematics II	
PHIL 240	Introduction to Logic	
STAT 201	Elementary Statistical Inference	

Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)	3
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Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)	3
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Semester Credit Hours 15

Second Year

Fall

JOUR 203	Media Writing I ¹	3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)	3	
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences)	3	
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/)	3	
Minor ^{1,2}	3	

Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring

JOUR 200-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/jour/) ¹	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/)	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Third Year**Fall**

JOUR 200-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/jour/) ¹	3
JOUR 300-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/jour/) ¹	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Spring

JOUR 484 Internship	3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Fourth Year**Fall**

JOUR 300-499 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/jour/) ¹	3
Language, philosophy and culture or creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Spring

JOUR 490 Journalism as a Profession ¹	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
Minor ^{1,2}	3
General elective	3
General elective	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Total Semester Credit Hours	120

¹ Must earn a grade of C or better

² Minor to be selected from among approved university minors. Consult with advisor regarding how to declare desired minor. Courses fulfilling core curriculum requirements may apply to the minor and therefore some of these courses may become electives. Minors will range between 15 and 18 hours. One minor must be from outside the College of Liberal Arts.

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural->

discourse-requirements/) courses. A course satisfying a core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. The required 6 hours may be met by courses satisfying other areas of a degree program. See your academic advisor for further information.