



Major in News/Editorial Journalism

School of Journalism & Broadcasting
Potter College of Arts & Letters
Western Kentucky University

Four-Year Academic Degree Path

The following four-year plan is an example of how to map your program in consultation with your news/editorial faculty advisor. Every student will finish with a unique plan of his/her own depending on the minor area of study and electives selected.

Admission: Prospective majors may take no more than 18 hours in the major before admission. Students must meet the following requirements before they can be admitted:

1. Completion of 48 hours of course work applicable to the baccalaureate degree with a minimum overall grade point average of 2.5.
2. Required courses include COMM 145 or COMM 161 (preferably COMM 161), HIST 119 or 120, the university math requirement, and at least a 'C' in ENG 100.
3. Completion of the following courses with at least a "C": JOUR 201, 202, 232.

CURRICULUM: The major in news/editorial journalism requires a minimum of 42 semester hours and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. No course with a grade of "D" or below may be counted toward the major or fulfill prerequisite requirements. One-half of the hours earned in the major must be at the 300/400 level. Students must take a minimum of 72 semester hours in courses outside of the School of Journalism & Broadcasting unit including the University's general education requirements. In addition to meeting institutional requirements for graduation, the news/editorial major must have a minor or second major outside of the School of Journalism & Broadcasting and Film Studies approved by the major faculty advisor.

Success Markers

{pre-requisite courses in brackets}

FIRST YEAR	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	<p><i>Join the Society of Professional Journalists - SPJ</i></p> <p><i>Visit the Math Lab for free tutoring</i></p>	JOUR 201* <i>Media & Society</i>	3	JOUR 202* <i>Intro. to Media Writing</i>
JOUR 131 <i>Digital Photography</i>		3	JOUR 261 <i>Intro. Multimedia</i> {JOUR 131} OR BCOM 264 <i>Digital Video Production</i>	3
Gen. Ed. ENG 100* (A-1) <i>Intro. to College Writing</i>		3	Gen. Ed. (A-3) COMM 161 or 145* <i>Speech</i>	3
Gen. Ed. MATH* (D-2) (MATH 109 or 116 or higher)		3	Gen. Ed. (C-2) PS 110 <i>American National Government</i>	3
Gen. Ed. (A-2) <i>Foreign Language</i>		3	Gen. Ed. (B-2) <i>Humanities</i>	3
UC 175 <i>Univ. Experience</i> (optional)		2	Gen Ed. (F) <i>Health & Wellness</i>	1
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		17	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	16

SECOND YEAR <i>Join College Heights Herald staff or Talisman Yearbook staff</i>	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	JOUR 232* <i>Electronic Technologies in Journalism</i>	3	JOUR 323 <i>News Editing</i> {JOUR 202}	3
	JOUR 261 <i>Intro. to Multimedia</i> {JOUR 131} OR BCOM 264 <i>Digital Video Production</i>	3	Gen. Ed. (D-1) <i>Science</i>	3
	Gen. Ed. (C-1) HIST 119 or 120* <i>Western Civilization</i>	3	Gen. Ed. (C-2) ECON 203 <i>Macro Economics</i>	3
	Gen. Ed. (D-1/L) <i>Science</i>	3	Gen. Ed. (B-1) <i>Literature</i>	3
	Gen. Ed. (B-2) <i>Humanities</i>	3	Course in Minor	3
	Gen. Ed. (F) <i>Health & Wellness</i>	1		
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	16	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	15
SUMMER TERM <i>Consider a study abroad experience this summer.</i>				
		TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		
THIRD YEAR <i>File application for graduation at 90 hours. (on-line form in Topnet)</i>	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	JOUR 301 <i>Press Law & Ethics</i> {JOUR 201, 202, Junior standing}	3	JOUR 302 <i>Intermediate Reporting</i> {JOUR 201, 202}	3
	BCOM 265 <i>Basic Broadcast News</i> {JOUR or BCOM 201}	3	HIST 349 <i>U.S. History Since 1945</i> (spring only)	3
	Gen. Ed. (A-1) ENG 300 <i>Writing in the Disciplines</i>	3	PS 304 <i>State Government</i> {PS 110}	3
	Gen. Ed. (E) GEOG 110 <i>World Geography</i>	3	Course in Minor	3
	Course in Minor	3	General Elective	2
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	15	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	14
SUMMER TERM <i>Consider an internship for credit this summer. JOUR 491 counts as an elective in the major.</i>				
		TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		
FOURTH YEAR <i>Visit Center for Career & Professional Development for resume consultation, practice interviews, begin job search</i>	FALL SEMESTER		SPRING SEMESTER	
	JOUR 325 <i>Feature Writing</i> {JOUR 302, 323 or permission}	3	JOUR 348 <i>Interactive Media</i>	3
	JOUR/BCOM 300/400 level elective	3	JOUR 426 <i>Advanced Reporting (capstone)</i> {JOUR 325}	3
	Course in Minor	3	Course in Minor	3
	Course in Minor	3	Course in Minor	3
	General Elective	3		
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	15	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	12	
Total Credit Hours: 120				

* Denotes prerequisite courses before admission

PLEASE NOTE: Prerequisites, Course Numbers, and Course Titles are subject to change.

Consult your advisor each semester.

Course Descriptions may be viewed at <http://www.wku.edu/catalog>

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Department:	School of Journalism & Broadcasting
Phone:	270 745-4144
Website:	www.wku.edu/journalism