

JOURNALISM, JBA

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC), founded in 1905, offers professional education within the context of the liberal arts degree of the College of Letters & Science. The student earns the journalism bachelor of arts (JBA) or journalism bachelor of science (JBS) degree upon completion of the program. Students are required to complete at least one of the two professional tracks, Journalism or Strategic Communication.

The school seeks to provide students with both a broad cultural base for future careers and the competence to do professional work immediately after graduation. Of the 120 credits required for graduation, at least 21 must be in the social sciences/humanities—for example, economics, history, psychology, political science, sociology. In addition to skills courses, students are required to take courses in conceptual subjects such as law and history of mass communication, public opinion, international communication and communication theory. The student approaches mass communication as science, art, and service while relating it to many facets of society.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE: ORGANIZATIONS

The school encourages students to gain practical experience through part-time jobs and internships. Student media include (but are not limited to) *The Daily Cardinal*, the Badger Herald (<http://www.badgerherald.com>), WSUM radio (<http://wsun.wisc.edu>) and the Wisconsin Union Directorate Publications (<https://union.wisc.edu/get-involved/wud/publications/>). Student organizations related to the school and major include (but are not limited to) the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), the Advertising Club, the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) and the Association for Women in Communication (AWC). Professionals from the media and related fields appear often in classes and meet with students in professional student organizations.

INTERNSHIPS

Students planning careers as media professionals are encouraged to hold one or more internships in the area of their academic specialization(s). **Declared journalism majors** or prospective Journalism majors with no other declared major may earn course credit for internships that relate to their professional tracks. As part of their degree programs, students may earn a maximum of 3 credits of JOURN 697 Internship during their undergraduate careers. Students may earn only one credit of JOURN 697 per semester, but may repeat the credit up to three times. Students who wish to earn degree credit for their internships should consult with career advisor Pam Garcia-Rivera **before they accept an internship**. Students must enroll in JOURN 697 at the time they hold the internship. Students who wish to enroll in JOURN 697 should see Pam Garcia-Rivera for authorization to enroll.

HOW TO GET IN

ADMISSION TO THE JOURNALISM DEGREE PROGRAM

Students who wish to declare themselves as degree candidates in journalism must submit an application to the School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC). Applications are accepted each fall and spring semester for admission the following semester. Prospective degree candidates must present to the school a record of academic achievement, writing ability and extracurricular participation that indicate a probability of success in some field of communication.

In order to apply for admission to the school, students must have met the following requirements:

- A minimum of 24 credits completed by the end of the semester in which they apply, including transfer credits but excluding AP and retroactive language credits.
- Completion of JOURN 201 by the end of the semester in which they apply. Students may have no more than 16 credits in Journalism courses taken at UW–Madison when applying for admission.

Transfer students must be enrolled for at least one semester at UW–Madison before applying for admission to the SJMC (their first semester may be in progress at the time they submit their application). Students transferring journalism course credit from other colleges and universities should check their record of transferred credit with the SJMC undergraduate academic advisor. The academic advisor is available for consultation at most SOAR orientation sessions for transfer students.

The number of students to be admitted in a given semester is subject to change based on the school's capacity to provide adequate access to required courses. Admissions decisions are based on the entire application, with particular emphasis on academic performance and writing ability. Specific guidelines for submitting the application portfolio are available online at this link (<http://journalism.wisc.edu/undergraduate/admissions/the-application/>) or in SJMC academic advising. The academic advisor conducts one-hour information sessions for applicants each semester, with dates and times listed on the application; these sessions are highly recommended and provide more information for applicants than is possible in a one-on-one advising meeting.

After admission to the school, the student's classification will be changed to JBA or JBS to reflect this change in status.

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as

needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatesstudyttext>) section of the *Guide*.

General Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits • Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits • Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits • Communication Part A & Part B * • Ethnic Studies * • Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *
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* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS-JOURNALISM (JBA)

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication is a professional school within the College of Letters & Sciences (L&S). The College confers the Bachelor of Arts—Journalism (JBA) degree.

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts—Journalism (JBA) degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The JBA is a special degree program; it is not considered a major. The JBA degree is not available to students who intend to earn a degree outside the College of Letters & Science.

Mathematics Complete the University General Education Requirements for Quantitative Reasoning A (QR-A) and Quantitative Reasoning B (QR-B) coursework.

Foreign Language	Complete either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the fourth unit of a foreign language; or • the third unit of a foreign language and the second unit of a different foreign language.
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L&S Breadth	Complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 credits of Humanities, which must include at least 6 credits of Literature; and • 12 credits of Social Science; and • 12 credits of Natural Science, which must include one 3+ credit Biological Science course and one 3+ credit Physical Science course.
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L&S Breadth	Complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 credits of Humanities, which must include at least 6 credits of Literature; and • 12 credits of Social Science; and • 12 credits of Natural Science, which must include one 3+ credit Biological Science course and one 3+ credit Physical Science course.
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Liberal Arts and Science Coursework	Complete at least 108 credits.
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Depth of Intermediate/Advanced Coursework	Complete at least 60 credits at the Intermediate or Advanced level.
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Major	Declare and complete at least one major.
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Total Credits	Complete at least 120 credits.
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UW—Madison Experience	Complete both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 credits in residence, overall; and • 30 credits in residence after the 86th credit.
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Quality of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.000 in all coursework at UW—Madison • 2.000 in Intermediate/Advanced level coursework at UW—Madison
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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

Students must complete 31 credits in major course work, to include:

INTRODUCTORY REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credits
Introduction to Journalism		
JOURN 201	Introduction to Mass Communication	4
JOURN 202	Mass Communication Practices	6
JOURN 203	Information for Communication	2
Social Science and Humanities		12
Intermediate/Advanced courses from at least three distinct Subjects ¹		
Total Credits		24

¹ Courses cross-listed in JOURN **may not count** toward this requirement.

TRACKS

Students must complete one of two tracks: **Journalism**, which focuses on reporting, or **Strategic Communication**, which focuses on forms of persuasive communication that includes advertising and public relations). ³

Journalism

Code	Title	Credits
JOURN 335	Principles and Practices of Reporting	4
Advanced Reporting - one course:		4
JOURN 401	In-Depth Reporting	
JOURN 404	Interpretation of Contemporary Affairs	
JOURN 405	Creative Nonfiction	
JOURN 411	Multimedia Design ⁴	
JOURN 417	Magazine Publishing ⁴	
JOURN 420	Investigative Reporting	
JOURN 425	Video Journalism ⁴	
JOURN 426	Community-Based Reporting	
JOURN 453	Strategic Media Relations	
JOURN 455	Emerging Media and the News	
JOURN 456	Long Form Video	
JOURN 475	Special Topics in Advanced Concepts and Skills ²	
Total Credits		8

Strategic Communication

Code	Title	Credits
JOURN 345	Principles and Practice of Strategic Communication	4
Advanced Strategic Communication—one course:		4
JOURN 411	Multimedia Design ⁴	
JOURN 417	Magazine Publishing ⁴	
JOURN 445	Creative Campaign Messages ⁴	
JOURN 447	Strategic Media Planning	
JOURN 449	Account Planning and Strategy ⁴	
JOURN 453	Strategic Media Relations	
JOURN 455	Emerging Media and the News	
JOURN 456	Long Form Video	
JOURN 463	Digital Media Strategies ⁴	
JOURN 464	Public Relations Strategies ⁴	
JOURN 470	Strategic Communication Campaigns Capstone	
JOURN 475	Special Topics in Advanced Concepts and Skills ²	
Total Credits		8

PERSPECTIVES, TOPICS AND ADVANCES

Code	Title	Credits
Perspectives (Two courses):		6-8
JOURN/ HISTORY 560	History of U.S. Media	
JOURN 561	Mass Communication and Society	
JOURN 563	Law of Mass Communication	
JOURN 564	Media and the Consumer	
JOURN 565	Effects of Mass Communication	
JOURN 566	Communication and Public Opinion	
Topics or Advances (1 course):		3-4
JOURN/ COM ARTS/ HDFS 616	Mass Media and Youth	
JOURN 618	Mass Communication and Political Behavior	
JOURN 620	International Communication	
JOURN 658	Communication Research Methods	
JOURN/ ASIAN AM 662	Mass Media and Minorities	
JOURN 666	Professional Responsibility in Mass Communication	
JOURN 669	Literary Aspects of Journalism	
JOURN 675	Topics in Government and Mass Media	
JOURN 676	Special Topics in Mass Communication	
Advances:		
JOURN/ COM ARTS/ LSC 617	Health Communication in the Information Age	
JOURN 622	The Impact of Emerging Media	
JOURN 664	Social Networks in Communication	

JOURN 670	Community Service Learning: Technology for Social Change ⁴	
JOURN/L I S 677	Concepts and Tools for Data Analysis and Visualization ⁴	
JOURN 678	Legal & Ethical Dimensions of Emerging Media	
Total Credits		9-12

² Special Topics courses may count for either track, or no track, depending on Topic. Consult the advisor for this major to determine eligibility of JOURN 475 to meet a major requirement.

³ Students planning to complete both tracks should consult with the undergraduate academic advisor about course availability and planning.

⁴ Course may be applied to the digital studies certificate.

RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- 2.000 GPA in all JOURN and all major courses
- 2.000 GPA on 15 upper-level major credits, taken in residence ⁵
- 15 credits in JOURN, taken on the UW–Madison campus

⁵ JOURN 400–699 are upper-level in the major.

HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students may declare Honors in the Major in consultation with the Journalism undergraduate advisor.

HONORS IN THE JOURNALISM MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

To earn Honors in the Major, students must satisfy both the requirements for the major (above) and the following additional requirements:

- Earn a 3.300 University GPA
- Earn a 3.400 GPA for all JOURN courses and all courses that count toward the major
- Complete one additional Topics or Advances course, for a total of two Topics or Advances courses
- Earn a grade of B or better in the four Perspectives, Topics and Advances courses
- Complete a two-semester of Senior Honors Thesis in JOURN 681 and JOURN 682, for a total of 6 credits.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total Degree To receive a bachelor's degree from UW–Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.

Residency Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW–Madison. "In residence" means on the UW–Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. "In residence" credit also includes UW–Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW–Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.

Quality of Work Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Convey information and express ideas effectively in contemporary media.
2. Understand the responsible and ethical use of mass media.
3. Appreciate the media's relationship with social, political, legal and economic systems.
4. Think strategically, creatively and critically, to solve problems in a professional context.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

This Sample Four-Year Plan is a tool to assist students and their advisor(s). Students should use it—along with their DARS report, the Degree Planner, and Course Search & Enroll tools—to make their own four-year plan based on their placement scores, credit for transferred courses and approved examinations, and individual interests. As students become involved in athletics, honors, research, student organizations, study abroad, volunteer experiences, and/or work, they might adjust the order of their courses to accommodate these experiences. Students will likely revise their own four-year plan several times during college.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Communication A	3	JOURN 201	4
Quantitative Reasoning A	3-4	Ethnic Studies	3
Science Breadth	3	Biological Science Breadth	3
Foreign Language (if needed)	4	Foreign Language (if needed)	4
	13		14

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
JOURN 202	6	JOURN 335 or 345	4
JOURN 203	2	Literature Breadth	4
Quantitative Reasoning B	3	Physical Science Breadth	3
Social Science Breadth	4	Social Science Breadth	4
		INTER-LS 210	1
	15		16

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Journalism or Strategic Communication course	4	Perspectives course	4
Intermediate/Advanced Humanities or Social Science for JBA/JBS	4	Intermediate/Advanced Humanities or Social Science for JBA/JBS	4

Literature Breadth	4 Intermediate/Advanced COMP SCI, MATH, or STAT (if JBS)	3-4
Science Breadth	3 Science Breadth	3
	15	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Perspectives course (JOURN 500+)	4	Topics or Advances course (JOURN 600+)	3-4
Intermediate/Advanced Humanities or Social Science for JBA/JBS	4	Electives	12
Intermediate/Advanced COMP SCI, MATH, or STAT (if JBS)	3-4		
Electives	5		
	16		16

Total Credits 120

ADVISING AND CAREERS

ACADEMIC ADVISING

For information about academic advising, see the School of Journalism and Mass Communication website (<https://journalism.wisc.edu/undergraduate/meet-with-an-advisor/>).

JOB INFORMATION SERVICE

The school provides a job listing service at current listings (<https://journalism.wisc.edu/career-services/current-listings/>) on the SJMC website. Questions concerning that can be directed to Pam Garcia-Rivera.

Current students and recent alumni are encouraged to meet with the undergraduate career advisor to discuss career and internship opportunities. Students may consult the school website (<http://journalism.wisc.edu/career-services/>) or with the undergraduate career advisor for specific information.

L&S CAREER RESOURCES

SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science helps students leverage the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and liberal arts degree; explore and try out different career paths; participate in internships; prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications; and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers). In short, SuccessWorks helps students in the College of Letters & Science discover themselves, find opportunities, and develop the skills they need for success after graduation.

SuccessWorks can also assist students in career advising, résumé and cover letter writing, networking opportunities, and interview skills, as well as course offerings for undergraduates to begin their career exploration early in their undergraduate career.

Students should set up their profiles in Handshake (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/>) to take care of everything they need to explore career events, manage their campus interviews, and **apply to jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers around the country.**

- SuccessWorks (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/>)
- Set up a career advising appointment (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit, targeted to first- and second-year students)—for more information, see Inter-LS 210: Career Development, Taking Initiative (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/inter-ls-210-career-development-taking-initiative/>)
- INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Com B General Education Requirement)
- Handshake (<https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/>)
- Learn how we're transforming career preparation: L&S Career Initiative (<http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci/>)

PEOPLE

Professor and Director: Rojas

Professors Downey, Friedland, Kim, McLeod, Riddle, Robinson, Rojas, D. Shah, H. Shah, Wagner

Associate Professors Culver, Graves, Palmer

Assistant Professors Cascio, Christy, McGarr, Yang